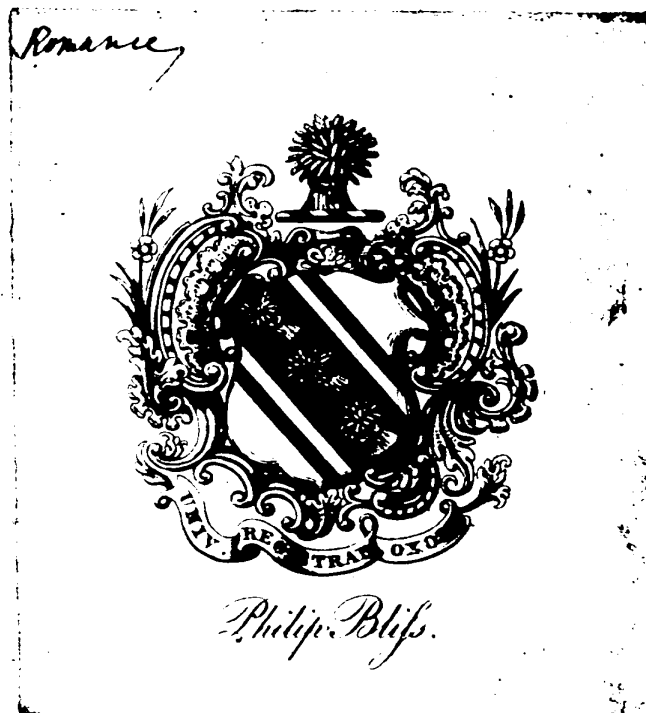
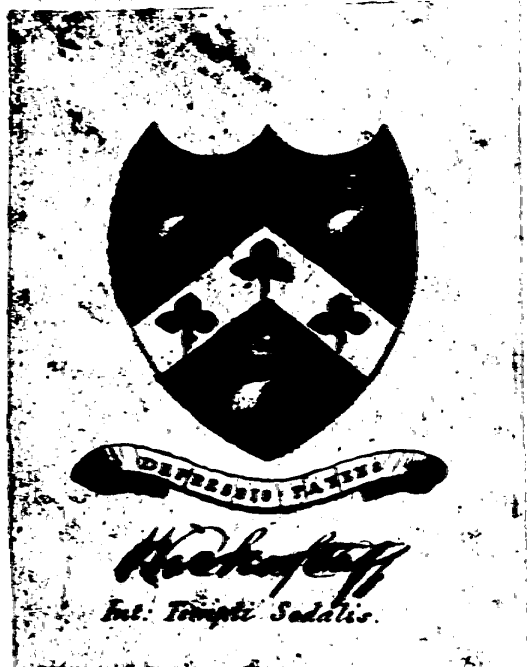


RE. 1868

Note: Phot. of last 2 leaves
fold in.



The most Pleasant

History of T O M

A L I N C Ō L N E, that renowned Sol-
dier, the R E D - R O S E K N I G H T, who
for his Valour and Chivalry, was firnamed
The Boast of England.

Shewing his Honourable Victories in Forraine
Countries, with his strange Fortunes in the *Fayrie*
Land: and how hee married the faire *Anglistora*,
Daughter to *Prester John*, that renowned
Monarke of the World.

Together with the Lives and Deaths of his two
famous Sons, the *Blacke Knight*, and the *Fayrie*
Knight, with diuers other memorable acci-
dents, full of delight.

The Seventh Impression.



L O N D O N,

Printed by A. M. and are to be sold by *Francis Faulkner*,
and *Francis Conles*. 1635.



TO THE RIGHT WOR-
SHIPFULL, SIMON WORTEDGE
of Okenberrie in the County of Huntingdon, Es-
quire: health, happinesse and prosperity.



He generall report and considera-
tion (right Worshipfull) of your
exceeding curtesie, and the great
friendship which my parents have
heretofore found at the hands of
your renowned Father do imbolden
me to present vnto your Wor-
ship these my vnpolisht Labours;
which if you shall vouchsafe to cast a fauourable glance
vpon, and therein find any part or parcell pleasing to
your vertuous mind, I shall esteeme my trauell most
highly honoured. The History (I present) you shall find
delightfull, the matter not offensive to any: only my skill
in penning it very simple, and my presumption great, in
presenting so rude a piece of worke to so wise a Patron;
which I hope your Worship will the more beare with,
and account the rather to be pardonable, in that the fault
proceedeth from a good meaning.

*Your Worships deuoted, and
poore Country-man,*

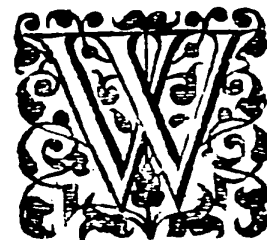
R. I.



The Pleasant Historie of TOM
A LINCOLNE,
the RED-ROSE Knight: for his
valour and Chivalrie, surnamed
the Boast of England.

CHAPTER. I.

*How King Arthur loued faire Angellica the Earle of
Londons Daughter: and likewise of the birth
of Tom a Lincolne.*



W^{hen} as King ARTHVR wore
the Emperiall Diadem of England,
and by his Chivalrie had purchased ma-
ny famous Victories, to the great re-
nouene of this mayden Land, / see he
ordained the order of the Round Table,
and selected many worthy Knights to
attend his person: of whose glittering
renouene many ancient *Chronicles* doe
recozd, and witnesse to all ensuing ages.

This worthy Prince, vpon a time intending to visit the city
of London, with some select number of his Knights came and
feasted with Androgius, being at that time Earle of London;
whose house (at that time) was not chieflie replenished with most de-
licatous fare, but graet with a number of beautifull Ladies:
who gaue such a pleasing entertainment to King Arthur
and his Knights, that they were vanisshed with pleasure, and

Tom a Lincolne

quite forgot the sound of martiall Drums, that had wont to summon them forth to the fields of honour: Amongst these glorious troopes of London Ladies, Angellica the Carles daughter had the chiefest praise for beauty and courtly behavious: for even as the Silver Spring Shone in a Winters frosty night, surpasseth the brightest of the twinkling Stars: so faire Angellica's sweet feature exceeded the rest of the Ladies: where by King Arthur was so intangled in the snares of love, that by no means he could withhold his affections from her divine excellence. He that before delighted to tread a weary march after Bellonas Drums, was now constrained to trace Cupids Quasars in Ladies chambers: and could as well straine the strings of a Lutes Lute, as sound a Soul divers alarins in the field: her beautie like the Adamant drew his steeld heart to lodge in the cloare of her brest: and no company delighted so much the lone-sicke King, as the presence of faire Angellica. So upon a time as he stood looking out of his Chamber window, he espied the Picture of his love sitting in a Garden under a Bower of Vines, prettily picking the ripsall of peas with her delicate hands, and took such pleasant paines in that mayden like exercise, that the well coloured blood in her face began to waite for me, and her cheeks to obtaine such an excellent beauty, that they seemed like two purple Roses intermingled with Haintborne buds: where by King Arthur grew enamored upon her, and stood for a time senselesse through the extreame passion he tooke in beholding her beauty: But at last, recovering his senses, he spake to her in this manner.

Oh most divine Angellica, Nature's sole wonder, thou excellent ornament of Beauty, thy lovely face painted with a crimson dye, thy Rosell Cheeks surpassing Snow in whitenesse, thy radiant Pecks like purest Snow, hath like a fowlers net intangled my paining heart: whereby it is for evermore imprisoned in the brest. Oh that the golden Armes of the Sun, had never twinkling before my trauers eyes, then had my heart inough his wanted liberty and my fancies been free from lovers vain imagin-tions. Thus, and in like manner, complased the King unto himselfe, taking by all means possible

the Red-rose Knight.

possible to excrete Acers fire from his brest. But the more he strove to abandon it, the more it increased: and feeling no pollicie might preuaile, but that this burning torment must of force be quenched with her celestiaall love he descended from his Chamber, and went boldly into the Garden: where taking Angellica by the hand as she sat upon a bed of Violets, which as then grew under the Arbour, in this manner began to court her.

Faire of all faires, (sayd the King) divine and beaustious Paragon, faire flower of London, knowe that since my aboad in thy fathers house, thy beauty hath so conquered my affections, and so bereaved me of my liberty, that unless thou vouchsafe to coole my ardent desires with a willing grant of the love, I am like to dye a languishing death, and this Countrey England of force must lose him, that hath all her boundes with many triumphant Victories: therefore sweete Angellica, if thy hard heart be so obdurate, that the teares of my trauels may nothing mollifie, yet take pittie on thy Countrey, that through thy cruelty, she lose not her wanted gloze, and be made unhappy, by the losse of her Soueraigne: then least my divine Angellica) how I, that haue made Princes stoop, and Kings to humble when I haue frowned, doe now submissively yeld my high honour to thy fate, either to be made happy by thy love, or unhappy in thy hate, that in time to come, Children may either blisse, or curse thee: Of these two, consider which thou wilt performe either with cruelty to kill mee, or with clemencie to preserve mee.

This unexpected request of the King, so amazed Angellica, that her Cheeks were Rayned with blushing shame, and like a bashfull Maiden (for a time) stood silent, not knowing in what manner to answer him, considering he was King of England, and the but Daughter to an Earle: Yet at last, when feare and shame had a while strove together in her heart, she replied in this sort,

Most mighty King (sayd shee) if your entertainment in my fathers house hath bene honorable, seek not the scile of honour of his Daughter, nor prefer to llemish the head of her virginity with the least thought of your burthens desire: the

Tom a Lincolne

loss of which sweet Iewne, is a torment to my soule more woyle then death. Consider with your selfe (most worthy Prince) the blacke scabbell that it may bring vnto your name and honour, hauing a Quene, a most vertuous and loyall Princess. Think vpon the shame of your marriage bed, the wrongs of your wedded phere, and lasting infamie of your olde glorye, for this I vow (by Dianes bright maiesty) before I will yeelde the conquest of my virginittie to the spoule of such vncleane desires, I will suffer mozt tormentis, then mans heart can imagine: therefore (most mighty Soueraigne) cease your barren rens suite, for I will not lose that matchlesse Iewell, for all the treasure the large Ocean contains: And in speaking these wordes she departed thence, and left the lone-sicke King in the Arbour complaining to the empty ayre: where after hee had numbred many determinations together, this hee purposed: neuer to cease his suite, till he had gained what his soule so much desired: for continually at the break of day, when Titans beaultie began to shine, and Auroras blush to appeare, would hee alwayes send to her Chamber window the sweetest Flowers that could bee desired: thinking thereby to obtaine her love. Many times would hee sollicite her with rich gifts, and large promises, bestitting rather an Emperesse then the Daughter of an Earle, profering such kindnesse, that if he had a heart of Iron, yet could shee not chuse but relent and requite his courtesies: for what is it that time will not accomplish, hauing the hand of a King set thereunto.

Twelve weary dayes King Arthur spent in wooing of Angellica, before hee could obtaine his hearts happinesse, and his soules content: at the end of which time he was as plyant to his will, as is the tender twig to the hand of the Husbandman. But how their secret meeting required a policie to keepe their private loues both from King Arthurs Quene, and from old Androgias, Angellicas father: and that their secret loves might long time continue without interuall of any partie whatsoeuer, this device they contriued: that Angellica should desire liberty of her father, to spend the remain of her life in the seruice of Diana, like one that abandoned all earthly vanities, honouring true chastity and religious life: So, with a

the Red-rose Knight.

demure countenance, and a sober grace, she went vnto her father, and obtained such leave at his hands, that he willingly condescended that she should liue as a professed Nunne, in a Monasterie that the King before time had builded in the Citie of Lincolne; and so furnishing her forth with such necessaries as her state required, he gaue her his blessing, and so committed her to Dianes seruice.

But now Angellica being no sooner placed in the Monastery and chosen a Sister of that fellowship, but King Arthur many times visited her in so secret a manner, and so disguisedly, that no man suspected their pleasant meetings: but so long talked they the ioyes of loue, that in the end the Sun grew great belied, and to King Arthurs quittance sealed in her tombe, and at the end of forty weekes shee was deliuered; where in presence of the Abbisse, and one more whom the King largely recompensed for their secrecy, shee was made a happy mother of a goodly son, whom King Arthur caused to be wrapped in a spankle of greene silke, tying a purse of Gold about his necke, and so causing the Abbisse to beare it into the field, and to lay it at a Shepherds gate nere adjoyning to the Citie, in hope the old man should foster it as his own: by which meanes his Angellica's dishonour might be kept secret from the world, and his owne disgrace from the murmuring reports of the vulgar people.

This his commandement was so speedily performed by the Abbisse, that the very next morning she stole the young Infant from his mothers keeping, and bore it secretly to the place appointed, there laying it downe vpon a turfe of greene grasse: it seemed prettily to smile, turning his cheyfull eyes vp towards the elements, as though it foreknew its owne good fortune. This being done, the Abbisse withdrew her selfe some little distance from that place, and hid her selfe closely behind a well growne Oake, diligently marking what should betide the comfortlesse Infant: But long shee had not there remained, but there flocked such a number of little Birds about the young harmlesse Babe, and made such a chirping melody, that it fell into a silent slumber, and slept as sweetly as though it had bene laid in a bed of softest silke.

By this time, the golden Sunne began to glister on the
 15
 Moon,

Tom a Lincolne

Mountain top, and his Sister Luna to withdraw her waferly countenance: at which time the pleasant Shepherds began to tune their Spinning notes, and to repaize unto their solbed sheepe, according to their wonted manner: Amongst which crew of lusty Swaines, old Antonio approached smoth of his Gate with a cheerefull countenance, whose Beard was as white as polished silver, or like to snow lying upon the flowery Mountaines: this bonny Shepherd no sooner espied Angelicaes little Babe lying upon the greene Hillocke, but immediately hee tooke it up; and viewing circumspectly every parcell of the rich Vestments wherein it was swappod, at last found out the Purse of Gold which the King had tyed unto the Childs necke, whereat the Shepherd so exceedingly rejoyced, that for the time he stood as a man ravisht with pleasure, and was not able to remove from the place where he stood: but yet at the last, thinking with himselfe that Heaven had sent him that good fortune, not onely giving him riches, but withall a Sonne, so hee was a comfort to him in his latter yeares: so bearing it in to his old Wife, and withall the Purse of Gold, and the rich Mantle, with the other things: who at the sight thereof was as highly pleased as her Husband, when hee found it first: so being both agreed to foster and bring it up as their own, considering that Nature neuer gave them in all their life any child, incontinently they caused it to be christened, and called by the name of TOM A LINCOLNE (after the Towne where it was found) a name most fitting for it, in that they knew not who were his true Parents.

But now speaks wee againe of the Spinster, that after shee had beheld how kindly old Antonio received the young Infant, she returned backe unto Angelicaes Chamber, whom shee found bitterly lamenting the losse of her tender Babe, thinking that some frowzie Squibb had stolne it away: but such was the kind comfort which the smooth-tongued midwife gave her in that extremity, whereby her sorrow seemed the lesse, and her mistrust full feare changed into smiling hope: yet neither would the King, nor the Spinster at any time whatsoeuer, make knowne unto her what was become of her little Sonne, but bying her off with delays and fowle excuses, left having intelligence of

his

the Red rose Knight.

his aboad, she should (through kind love, and naturall affection) see him, and so discover their Lawes practices.

Thus lived the most faire Angelica many dayes in great grieve, wishing his returne, and desiring Heaven that the Decrees might be so favourable, that once againe before the satall Sisters had finished her life she might behold her Infants face: for whose presence her very soule thirsted.

Here will we leave the solitary Lady comfortlesse and with- out company (except it were the King, that sometimes visited her by stealth) and report what happened to Tom a Lincolne in the Shepherds house.

CHAP. II.

Of the manner of Tom a Lincolnes bringing vp, and how hee first came to be called the Red rose Knight: with other things that hapned to him.



Great was the wealth that old Antonio gathered together, by meanes of the Treasure hee found about the Infants attire, whereby hee became the richest in all that Country, and purchast such lands and Livings, that his supposed Sonne (for wealth) was deemed a fit match for a Knights Daughter: yet for all this his bringing up was but meane, and in a homely sort; for after hee had passed ten yeares of his age hee was set to keepe Antonioes sheepe, and to followe his husband, whereby hee grew strong and hardy, and continually gave himselfe to painefull labours, imagining and devising haughty and great enterpises: yet notwithstanding was of honest and vertuous conditions, well featured valiant, active, quick, and humble, sharp-witted, and of a ripe judgement: hee was of a valiant and invincible courage, so that from his Childhood and infancie, it seemed hee was bowed to Mars, and martiall exploits. And in his life and manners is deciphered the image of true Nobility: for though hee obscurely lived in a Countrey Cottage, yet had hee a superiour mind, aiming at state and mates

Tom a Lincolne

He, bearing in his brest the princely thoughts of his Father. For on a time keeping Castell in the field among other young men of his age and condition, he was chosen (in sport by them) for their lord or knight, and they to attend on him like dutifull servants: and although this their election was but in play, yet his whole spirits were raiſed with great and high matters, first, procured them to ſwear to him loyalty in all things, and to obey him as a King, where, or when it ſhould please him in any matter to command them: to which they all moſt willingly conſcended. Thus after they had ſolemnly taken their oathes, he perſwaded them to leaue that baſe and ſeruite kind of life, ſeeking to ſerue in War, and to follow him, being the Generall: the which through perſwaſion they did, and ſo leauing their Caſtell to their Fathers and Maſters, they aſſembled all together, to the full number of a hundred at the leaſt: vnto whom he ſenerally gaue certaine Red-roſes, to be wrought for colours in their Hats, and commanded them, that euer after hee ſhould be called the Red-roſe Knight. So in this manner departed he with his followers vnto Barnſdale Heath, where they pitched by Tents, and liued long time vpon the robberies and ſpoiles of Paſſengers, inſomuch that the whole Countrey was greatly moleſted by them.

This diſordered life ſo highly diſpleaſed the Parents of theſe unruly Outlawes, that many of them dyed with griefe: but eſpecially of all other, old Antonio took it in ill part, conſidering how dearly hee loued him, and how tenderly hee had brought him vp from his infancy: therefore he purpoſed to provide a meane to call him from that unſuſtained kind of life, if it might poſſible be brought to paſſe: ſo in his old dayes undertaking this taſke, hee travelled towards Barnſdale Heath: into which being no ſoner entred, but ſome of the under foot of theſe Outlawes ceaſed vpon the old man, and without any further violence, brought him before their Lord and Captain: who at the firſt ſight knew him to be his Father (as he thought) and therefore vied him moſt kindly, giuing him the beſt entertainment that hee could deuife: where, after they had ſome ſmall time conferred together, the good old man brake out into theſe ſpeeches.

Oh

the Red-roſe Knight.

Oh thou degenerate (quoth he) from natures kind: Is this thy duty to thy fathers age, thus diſobediently to liue, troubling thy naturall Countrey with vnlawfull ſpoiles: Is this the comfort of mine age: is this thy love vnto thy Parents, whose tender care hath bene euer to aduance thy eſtate: Canſt thou behold theſe milke-white haire of mine all to rent and torne, which I haue violently martyzed in thy abſence: Canſt thou endure to ſee my dim eyes almoſt ſightleſſe through age, to drop downe teares at thy diſobedient feet: Oh wherefore haſt thou infringed the lawes of nature, thus cruelly to kill thy fathers heart with griefe, and to end his dayes by thy vitiouſ life: Returne, returne deare child, baniſh from thy brest theſe baſe actions, that I may ſay, I haue a vertuous Sonne: and be not like the viperous brood, that works the untimely death of their Parents. And ſpeaking theſe words, griefe ſo exceeded the bounds of Reaſon, that he ſtood ſilent, and beginning againe to ſpeake, teares trickled from his eyes in ſuch abundance, that they ſtayed the paſſage of his ſpeech: the which being perceived by the Red-roſe Knight, he humbly fell vpon his knees, and in this ſort ſpoke vnto good Antonio:

Soft deare and reuerend Father, if my offence doe ſeeme as done in your eyes, that I deſerue no forgiveness, then here behold now your poore inglorious Son, laying his brest open, ready prepared to receive deaths remorseleſſe ſtroke from your aged hands, as a due puniſhment for this my diſobedient crime: but to be reclaimed from this honourable kind of life (I count it too noble, becauſe it taſteth of manhood) firſt ſhall the Sun bring day from out the weſtern heauens, and the ſiluer ſpowne lodge her brightneſſe in the eaſtern waues, and all things elſe againſt both kind and nature turne their wonted courſe.

Well then (quoth Antonio) if thy reſolution be ſuch, that neither my bitter teares, nor my faire intreaties may preuaile to withdraw thy vaine ſoll, then know (thou moſt vngratious impe) that thou art no Son of mine, but ſprung from the bowels of ſome vntamed Wyger, or wild Lionneſſe, elſe wouldſt thou humbly ſubmit thy ſelfe to my reuerent perſuaſions; from whence thou cameſt I know not, but ſure thy brest harbours the tyranny of ſome monſtrous Wyant, from whose loynes thou

33

thou

Tom a Lincolne

thou art naturally defended. Thou art no fruit of my body for I found thee (in thy infancie) lying in the fields, cast out as a prey for ravenous fowles, ready to be deuoured by hunger-barned dogs: but such was my pitié towards thee, that I took thee up and ever since haue fostered thee as mine owne child: but now, such is thy unbridled folly, that my kind curtesie is requited with extreame ingratitude, which sin aboue all others, the immortall powers of Heauen doe condemne, and the very Demills themselves doe hate: therefore like a Serpent, henceforth will I spit at thee, and neuer cease to make incessant prayers to the iustfull Deuents, to reuenge this thy monstrous disobedience.

These words being ended, he gaue such an extreame sigh, that his very heart brake with griefe, and he immediatly dyed in the presence of the Red-rose Knight. For whose death, hee made moys sorrowfull lamentation, then Niobe did for her seuen Sonnes. But in recompence of old Antonioes kind love, that preserved his infancie from the fury of ravenous fowles, he intombed him most kately in the Citie of Lincolne, whose body hee sent thither by certaine Passengers whom hee had taken, and withall a thousand pound in treasures, to be bestowed upon a great Bell to be rung at his Funerall, which Bell hee caused to be called Tom a Lincolne, after his owne name, where to this day it remaineth in the same Citie: These Passengers being as then rich Merchants of London, hauing receiued the dead body of old Antonio, and withall the treasure, went with all speed vnto Lincolne, and performed euery thing as the Red-rose Knight had appointed.

The death of this good old man not onely caused a generall sorrow through the whole Citie, but wrought such an extreame griefe to old Antonioes wife, that she within few dayes yielded her life to the remorselesse stroke of the frowning destinies, and was buried in the same graue where her husband was intombed: Whose deaths were still now leaue to be mourned by their dearest friends, and likewise, for beauties sake, passe ouer many Stratagems which were accomplished by the Red-rose Knight and his followers vpon Barnsdale Heath, and returned to King Arthur and his Knights, flourishing in the English Court.

CHAP.

the Red-rose Knight

CHAP. III.

Of the first Conquest of *Portingale* by the *Red-rose Knight*, and how hee was the first that euer triumphed in the Citie of *London*.



He report of Tom a Lincolnes practices grew so generall amongst the vulgar sort of people, that at last it came to King Arthurs eares, who imagined in his princely mind, that hee was sprung of his blood, and that hee carryed lofty thoughts of honour planted in his brest, though shrouded vnder a Countrey life: therefore, through kind nature, hee purposed to haue him resident in Court with him, that he might daily see his lively sparkes of honour shew their resplendent brightnesse, yet in such obscurity, that he should not know the smallest motion of his parentage; therefore hee called together three of his approued Knights, namely Lancelot du Lake, Sir Tristram, and Sir Triamore, and gaue them in charge, if it were possible, to fetch the Red-rose Knight vnto his Court, of whose aduenturous exploits hee hath heard so many times reported: and withall hee gaue them generall pardon, sealed with his priuie seale, for him and all his lawlesse followers.

This Commission, being receiued by the three worthy Knights, they with all speed armed themselves in rich Cozlets, and strong habiliments of war, and so rode towards Barnsdale Heath; where being no sooner come, and deliuered their message from the king, but the Red-rose Knight gaue them an honourable welcome, and for three daies most royally feasted them vnder large Canuasse Tents, wherein they slept as securely, as they had been in King Arthurs Court, or in a strong Castle of war.

After this, Tom a Lincolne selected out a hundred of his resolute followers, such as he best liked of, and came with Sir Lancelot, and the rest to the English Court, where King Arthur
not

Tom a Lincoln

not onely gave him a friendly entertainment, but also installed him one of his knights of the Round-table: and withall proclaimed a solemn Tournament, that should be holden in the honour of this new made knight: to which Tournament, assembled from other countries, many Princes, Barons, and knights of high honour, which behaved themselves most nobly, and won great commendations of every beholder: but specially the Red-rose Knight, who for that day, stood as chiefe Champion against all comers. In that Tournament, on first dayes deed of his knighthood, where onely by his valour and prowess he overthrew thre Kings, and thirty other knights, all famous for Chivalry: whereby he obtained such grace in the English court, that he had by the King a paire of golden spurres put upon his feet, and generally of the whole assembly, he was accounted one of the bravest knights that then lived in the world.

But now marks, how crowning Fortune ended their Triumphes with unlucke Reines: for the same day before the knights had unbuckled their Armour, there arrived a Messenger, who certified King Arthur, how his Ambassadors was unjustly done to death in the Portingale Court, (which was an Act contrary both to the Faith of Princes, and the Law of Armes:) For whose death King Arthur grew so enraged, that he swore by the Honour of his bright Renowne, and by the golden Spar of true knighthood, the Portingales should repent that inhumane violence, with the death of many thousand guiltlesse soules; and that babes and boyes, should have just cause to curse the first contriver of that unkinde murder: therefore with all speede he mustred by a mighty Army of souldiers, and (because he was continually molested with home-bred Mutinies, and treacherous rebellions, the which himselfe in person of force must pacifie) appointed the Red-rose Knight as chiefe Generall over the Armes mustred for Portingale. In which service, he accomplished so many famous Exploits, that he was for ever after named, The Boast of England. For no sooner had he the whole Campe in charge, and aboute their ships, but he proved the perfect Batterne of an exquisite souldier: such a one, as all martiall Captaines may learne to imitate: for he so circumspectly ordered his Captaines, that

IN

the Red-rose Knight.

in his Campe was never knowne any byrde or mutinie. He was very courteous and liberal: doing helpe to all men according to their deserts. He so princely, and with such care instructed his souldiers, that at an instant, alwayes (if it were needfull) every man by the sound of a Drumme or a Trumpet, was found in his Charge or Quarter. And (to be byrse) his Campe resembled one of the greatest Cities in the world, for all kind of officers were there found in order: and also a great number of Merchants to furnish it with all manner of necessities. He in no case permitted any robberies, private fighting, force, or violence: but with severity punished those that were therein found guilty. His desire was, that his souldiers should glory in nothing so much, as in partiall proteste, Merit, and wisdom. He evermore gave them their pay without fraud or deceit. He honoured, he praised, he embraced and kissed them, and withall kept them in awe and subiection: by which means his fame and honour grew so renowned, that his Army daily increased more and more: for when he first arrived upon the Coastes of Portingale, his Campe grew to be as great as ever was Caesar, when he conquered the Westerne world, and it matchlesse proved nothing inferior unto his. So fortunate were his proceedings, that he made a great part of the Princes of Portingale desolate, not being intercepted by any, but spying every Towne and City as he went, untill such time as the Portingale King had gathered together a marvailous number of souldiers, both old, and of much experience, by reason of the continuall warres that they had with the Turkish nation adjoining neere unto them: But when this Portingale King (like an expert souldier) seeing that no way he might resist the English Army, nor expell them his Countrey, unless he gave them present battaile, therefore trusting in his approved manhood, and the proteste of his souldiers, he set his Army in a readinesse, and so marched forthward to meet the Red rose Knight, and his warlike followers, which at that time had pitched his Campe in a large Champaigne plaine, adjoining neere unto the City of Lisbonne, whereas both these Armes met: and setting them in order (as it became good Captaines) there they beganne (in the byrse of

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the

Tom a Lincoln:

the day) the most cruell and terriblest Battle that ever was heard of, or taught in that age, considering the number of both parties, their experience and pollicie, with the valiant courage and promise of their Captaines.

In great danger continued this fight, till the Sun beganne to set, with marvellous slaughter on both sides; yet remayned the victory doubtfull, declining neither to the Portingales, nor yet to the English: but at last (though long) the Portingales began to faint and die, more indeed oppressed with the multitude than for any feare they received in the Battle: for the most part of them with honour died manfully in the field, some taken prisoners, and the rest fled for their better safety: but now the Portingale King perceiving his Souldiers begin to fly, with ragee hee sought to withstande them from flight, resisted in person valiantly the furious rage of the enemy: but in that enterprise hee gained such and so many knockes, that at last he was wounded, and for want of rescue, was forced to yield himselfe as prisoner: whereat the whole Armie of the Portingales were discomfited, and the victory fell to the Englishmen: the which being obtained, the Red-rose Knight with his Armie entred into the Citie of Lishborne; where the common Souldiers were enriched with wealthy spoyle, and the Kings Palace ranlacke by the Red-rose Knight: where hee took such prisoners as him best liked, and the rest (like an honourable Souldier) hee set at liberty, commanding that no violence should be offered any way.

After this, setting his Armie in a readinesse, he marched towards England, where after some few daies travell, hee arrived with all his host in the Westerne parts of Devonshire, and marching towards London, where againe his coming, the Citizens with the Inhabitants of other villages were adjoyning, were that day scene in their sumptuous and rich attire, every one of them endeavouring to place himselfe in some Gallery or Window, that the better and with more ease they might behold the triumphant returne of the Red-rose Knight. All the Churches in London were on every side set open, hanged round about with most costly furniture: the streets were also most gloriously beset with greene Boughes, and strowed with

the Red-rose Knight.

with Perfumes of no small value: and for the infinite multitude of people that were scene in the Citie, there was appointed a hundred Watchers most richly attyed to keepe the streets plaine and open, whereby the Triumphs might have the easier passage: and for that the diversity of the Shewes were so many, that they of necessity were constrained to part them into three severall daies.

The first day hardly sufficed in good order to bring in the Banners, Standards, and Ensignes of the Conqueror, the golden Images, and Tables of price, which were all brought in on Carts very curiously painted and trimmed.

On the second day came in the Armour of the Conqueror King, as also of all the other Portingale Kings: and as they were rich, bright, and glittering, so were they with most cunning ordered and couched in wagons. After these entred three thousand men in order, bearing nothing but money, openly to be scene, and that in huge platters and Missets of silver: of which were three hundred and fifty in number, and four of our men allotted to every Misset: the other brought in most artificiall Tapestry works, beautified with gold and silver. And thus was the second daies Triumph ended, in most pompous solemnity.

Upon the third day, even at the rising of the Sonne, with the first Band, entred (as a topfull sound of Conquest) an infinite number of Flutes, Drummes, and Trumpets, with other like martiall and warlike Instruments, sounding not after a most pleasant and sweet manner, but in most terrible sort, as it was possible to be done, even in such order as they doe when they presently joyne battell. And after them came a hundred and twenty Kine all white, having their Hornes curiously gilded with Gold, their bodies covered with Mailes, (which they accounted most sacred and holy) bearing also Garlandz of flowers upon their heads, given by certaine young Gentlemen, no lesse well-favoured then gorgeously attyed. After these followed the Coach of the conquered King of Portingale, with his owne Armour layd thereon openly to be scene of all men: his Crowne and royall Scepter was layd in seemely order upon his Armour. After his Coach

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same Prisoners on foot, with his owne naturall Children, being little infants: and after them followed a great troope of his Seruants and Officers, as Masters of his Household, Secretaries, Clergers, Controllers, Chamberlaines, with other Gentlemen of his Court, all in a most sorrowfull manner, seeing themselves brought into such extremity and seruitude, that they moued to compassion all such as beheld them. Of the Kings children, there were two Boyes, and one Girl; of age so young and tender, that they had small understanding of their misfortune and misery.

In this triumph followed the Father his owne Children (after the vlage of his Countrey) clad in blacke mourning garments, sorrowing likewise for his hard misfortune. Then followed many of his appoynted friends: which, beholding in that plight their unhappy Prince, brake out into teares and sighs so bitterly, that their enemies themselves grieved at their mischance.

After these, followed one which carryed certaine precious Stones, that had bene presented to the Red rose Knight, from some ancient Cities in Portingale, who immediately followed in person triumphantly in his Huey Chariot, appaelled in vestures of purple Tissue, hauing a Lamzell bough in his hand, and a Crowne of the same upon his head. After him followed his owne Souldiers, both foot-men and horse-men, all marching in most decent order, armed with rich furniture, holding also each of them a Lamzell bough in his hand, their Ensignes and Banners Souldier-like displayed, sounding partiall melody in honour of their triumphant Captaine: with many other like presents most royall and magnificent.

Thus in this gallant order marched they to the Kings Chappell, where in the presence of the King and his Lords (which came to honour and grace their Triumphs) they gave thanks to God for their successfull victory: and after sollemne seruice was ended they departed to King Arthurs Court, where every one, as well strangers as others, were most royally feasted.

The Portingale King seeing his kind entertainment in the English Court, where he was used more like a friend, then an Enemy,

the Red-rose Knight.

Enemie, had small care to returne home, but strolled many a day amongst the English Lords: whose loues vnto strangers be euermore most honourable. But so great were the courtships that the noble King Arthur bestowed vpon the Portingales, who for their proffered disgraces, requited them liberally with honour: and not onely sent them home ransomlesse, but promised to lend them ayde and succour from England, if occasion required: so bearing them company to the Sea Side, hee most friendly committed them to the mercy of the winds and waues, which were so favourable, that in short time they arrived safe in their owne Country; where many a day after they remembered the honourable kindnesse of the Englishmen, and caused the Chronicles of Portingale to record the remembrance of King Arthur, and his Knights of the Round Table.

CHAP. IIII.

How the Red-rose Knight travelled from the king of England's Court, and how he arrived in the Fayerie-land, where he was entertained by a Mayden Queene, and what hapned to him in the same Country.

Now, after the Portingales were thus conquered, and sent home with great honour, the English King and his Lords, rested themselves many a day in the Towers of Peace, leaving their Armours rusting, and their pampered Steedes standing in their Stables, forgetting their usuall manner of roystfull warre: which tole all greatly discontented the magnanimous Red-rose Knight, who thought it a shame to his palmed glory, and a scandall to his princely mind to entertaine such base thoughts: and considering with himselfe how ignorant hee was of his true Parents, and from whence hee was descended, hee could not imagine; therefore he purposed to begin a new enterprize, and to trauell vp and downe the world, till hee had either

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found his father and mother, or else yielded his life to the
races come in that pretended Journey: so going to the King,
(but little thinking that he was spring from so noble a stock)
crawling at his Graces hand, to grant him such liberty, for to
try his knight-hood in foraine Countries, whereas yet did ne-
ver English-man make his adventure; and so to eternize his name
to all posterity, rather then to spend his life in such home-bred
perils.

As this his honourable request, the King (though loath to
suffer his company, yet because it belonged to knightly At-
tempts) he gave him leave, and withall, furnished him a
shippe at his state proper cost and charges, giving free Li-
cense to all Knights whatsoever, to beare him company: as
amongst which number, Sir Launcelot du Lake was the chief-
fest that proffered himselfe to that Voyage, who professed such
love to the Red-rose Knight, that they plighted their faiths
like Swayne Brothers, and to live and die together in all extre-
mities.

So these two English Knights, with the number of a hun-
dred more, all resolute Gentlemen, take leave of the King
and with all speed went a ship-board: wherein being no son-
ner entred, but the Pilot hoisted Sayle and oylanchore, and so,
committed their lives and fortunes to the pleasure of Nep-
tunes merrie, upon whose watry kingdome they had not many
dayes sayled, but Aeolus broken gates burst open, and the
winde so violently troubled the swelling waves, that every
minute they were in danger to end their lives in the bottome
of the Seas.

After moneths the wind and the waters stroue together for
supremacie: during which time, they saw no land, but were
driven up and downe, to what place the sur changed Desti-
nies list: so at last they sayled beyond the Sun, directed only
by the light of the Starres, not knowing which way to tra-
vell towards land; but in such extremity for want of Anchors,
that they were forced to land at a certaine Island in the We-
stern parts of the world, inhabited only by women: where
being no sooner on land, and giving God thanks for delivering
them from that mortall perill, but the Red-rose Knight cast up
his

the Red-rose Knight.

his eyes towards the higher parts of the Countrey, and espied
more then two thousand women coming forth at a little gate,
all most richly armed with Breast-plates of silver, marching
in trim array, like an Army of well appointed souldiers: the
which number coming nere to the Sea side, they sent two of
their Damselfs, as messengers to the English Knights, willing
them, as they loved their lives, presently to retire againe backe
to the Seas, for that was no Countrey for their abode. But
when the Red-rose Knight of England had understood the bold
message of the two Damselfs, he was sore abashed (considering
the number of armed women he saw before him, and the great
dangers they had suffered before on the Sea for want of victu-
als) that he knew not in what manner he was best to answer
them: but having a good courage, he at last spake to the two
Damselfs in this sort.

Right Noble Ladies, I have well understood your speeches:
therefore I desire you for to shew such favour unto wandering
Travellers as to tell us in what Countrey Fortune hath brought
us to: and for what cause we are commanded by you to returne
to the Sea?

Surely Sir Knight (answered one of the Damselfs) this
Countrey whereon you are arrived, it is not very bigge, but yet
most fertile and commodious: and is called by the name of the
Fayerie-Land: And now to shew you the cause why you are
commanded to returne, this it is. Not many yeares agoe,
there reigned in this Countrey a King which had to name
Larmos, for wisdom and prudence not his equall was found
in any of these parts of the world. This King had such con-
tinuall war against the bordering Ilanders, that upon a time
he was constrained to muster for the same war all the men both
young and old which were found in his Kingdome, whereby
the whole Countrey was left destitute of men, to the great dis-
contentment of the Ladies and Damselfs that here inhabited:
whereupon they finding themselves so highly wronged, living
without the company of men, they generally assembled them-
selves together, with the Daughter of King Larmos, which
is called Calia, no less a Beautie, then in Vertue and Wise-
dome: These Ladies and Damselfs being gathered toge-
ther,

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ther, with a generall consent, dispatched certaine messengers to the King, and to their husbands, willing them to returne unto their Country, and not to leave their wives any children in such extremity, without the comfort and company of man. Upon which, the King answered, that he had besieged his enemies in their Townes of War; and before one man should returne home till he came with Conquest, his Country should be lost and made desolate, and the women given over to the spoyle of his enemies: Which answer, when the Ladies had received, they took it in such evill part, that they conspired against their King, and husbands, and put to death all the men children that were in the Country; and after determined, when their husbands, fathers, and friends returned from the War, that they should the first night of their coming, be found sleeping in their beds, and that never after they should suffer man to enter into their Country. After this conclusion, they crept out Celia the Kings daughter for their Quene: and so afterwards, when the King and his army returned from the Wars, this bloody murder was perpetrated, and not a man left alive, but onely the King released, whom Celia would in no wise against nature murder: but yet notwithstanding, she delivered him into the hands of her chiefest Ladies, which put him into a boat alone, and so sent him to the Sea to seek his fortune. Therefore most noble knights, this is the cause, why you may not enter into our Country: which if you doe, and not presently withdraw your selves unto the Sea, the Ladies will suddenly give you a mor- talious Battell.

Now by the Ever-living God, which English-men adore, (said the Noble Red-rose Knight) such extremities have wee suffered at home, that wee are like to perish and dye with hunger, unless wee finde some succour at your hands: and before we will end our lives with famine, we will enter Battell with those Ladies, and so dy with honour in the field: yet this kindest we humbly desire of your Honors, to returne unto your Quene, and certifie her of our estate and necessity, and that we altogether instantly desire, that if there be any sparke of Vertue, or Nobility harboured in her breast, that she will

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will have pitty upon us, and suffer us not to end our lives by such an unhappy kind of death.

With this request the two Damselfs returned to the Quene, and recounted from word to word the humble suit of the Red-rose Knight, and what extremity they were in: Which when the Quene understood, and that they were knights of England, the same of which Countrey she had so often heard reported, she demanded what manner of people they were, and of what condition? Surely Spadam (answered one of the two Damselfs) I never in all my life sawe more goodly men, nor better spoken: and it is to be supposed, they be the choyse of all humane people, and with their courteous demeanors are able to overcome the merciless and savage Nation to affect them.

The Quene hearing the Damselfs so highly to commend the English knights, thinking also upon their request, began (in minde) to have pitty of their misadventures, and so instantly sent for them, and gave them free libertie to make their abode in her Countrey: which incontinently when the English knights heard, how they should receive a kinde welcome, and a friendly entertainment, grew so exceeding joyfull, as though Heaven had sent them present comfort: so coming before the Quene and her Ladies, they saluted each other most courteously, and with great reverence. But when the vertuous Quene beheld this noble company before her, in all humilitie, she delivered to a hundred of her Ladies, the hundred English knights, and reserved the princely Red-rose Knight unto her selfe: and so were they brought to the Queens Pallace, where every Lady feasted her knight in most gallant sort, and to their hearts content. But now when the Quene had the Red-rose Knight in her Chamber, and had beheld the exceeding beautie of the noble Prince, she took him by the hand, and led him into one of her Chambers, where she showed him her Riches and Treasure: and after said unto him in this manner.

Good noble and valiant Englishman, these Riches be all onely at thy Commandment, and also my body, which here I offer up as a gift and present to thy divine excellencie: and further

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Furthermore, there is nothing of baine, which I am afraid of, but shall be at thy disposing, to the intent that my leave may be acceptable to thy gracious eyes. But when the Red-rose Knight perceived to what intent she spake these words, in this manner answered her, saying.

Most deare Prince. He, and faire Queene of this Maiden countrey, I giue you right humble thanks for these your courtesies, and by no meanes possible may I deserve this high honour you haue graced me with.

The great Knight (replied then the Queene) the smallest thought of your honourable mind, is sufficient to recompence the uttermost of my desires: yet let me request this one thing at your noble hands, that neuer asked the like fauour of any man before, for she that neuer knewe the least motion of loue, is now pricked with a hundred torments: and unless you quench the ardent affection wherewith my heart is fired, with the pleasant hopes of your comfortable smiles, I am like to die helpeless, and then the world will accuse you of cruelty, in murdering a constant Lady: but if it shall please you to grant mee leave, and to espouse me according to Himmels holy Rites, here shall you rule sole King, and be the Lord of all this Countrey.

My right deare Lady (answered then the Red-rose Knight) you haue done such pleasure to mee, and to my distressed followers, in preserving us from famine, as I shall neuer requite it, though I should spend all the rest of my life in your seruice. And knowe (most excellent Princeesse) that there is no adventure so dangerous, yet at your commandment would I promise to accomplish: yet for to tie my selfe in Medebachs bonds there is no woman in the world shall procure me: for untill I haue finished an Adventure which in my heart I haue vowed I will not linke my affection to any Lady in the world. But thinke not (Madam) that I refuse you: I doe through necessity: for I sweare by the dignity King Arthur graunted me, that I should thinke my selfe most fortunate, if I had so faire and noble a Lady, as your siuing selfe.

Most worthy Knight (then answered the Queene) I imagine, that the Gods haue sent you into this Countrey for two causes principally: The first is, that you and your followers

should

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should be preserved from death by my meanes: The second is that you should inhabit in this Countrey least it should in short time be left as a desert wilderness: for it is inhabited onely by Women without a King, and haue no other Governour but me, which am their chiefe Princeesse: And so for much as I haue succoured you, so succour you this desolate Citie, that it may be repopled with your sub: and in so doing, you shall accomplish a vertuous deed, and winne to your names an eternall memorie to all coming ages.

I conesse (quoth the Red-rose Knight) that you and your Ladies haue succoured me and my followers in our great necessities: and in recompense wherof, we will employ all our endeauours to the repopling againe of this Countrey: But in regard of the secret vow my heart hath made, I will not yield my selfe to your desires; for if I should infringe my oath mine Honour were greatly impaired: And before I would commit that dishonourable fact, I would suffer the greatest torment that mans heart can imagine.

Incontinently, when the lone-sicke Queene heard this answer of the English Knight, and perceived that he was firme in his purpose, shee took leave of him, and departed for that time: the Red-rose Knight likewise withdrew himselfe into his Chamber, pondering in his mind a thousand imaginations. But shee for her part was so troubled in mind, and so wounded with the Darts of blind Cupid, that when the misty darknesse of night had covered the earth, shee laid her downe upon her bed, where betwixt shame and her heart, beganne a terrible Battell. Her heart was encouraged, that shee should goe and lie with him: but shame began to blush, and withstood that persuasion; by which meanes the battell was great, and endured a long time: But at last the heart was Conquerour, and shame vanquished and put to flight, in such sort that the faire Queene arose from her bed, and went and laid her downe by her beloved Knight, where he slept: and being in the bed, shee began fearefully to tremble, for shame still followed her unlawfull promises: where after her quivering heart began a little to be qualified, with her trembling hand shee awaked him, and after spake in this manner.

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My most deare and affectionat friend, though like a carelesse watch I come unto thee apparelled with shame, yet let my true love colour this my infamous presumption: for your princely person and kingly demeanours, like Adamants haue byasme my steeld heart to commit this shamefull ad; yet let not my fervent Affection be requited with Disdaine: and although you will not consent to bee my wedded Lord and Husband, yet let me be thy love and secret friend; that a pite distressed Queene may thinke her selfe happy in an Englishmans love.

When the noble knight heard the faire Calias voyce, and felt her by his side all naked, hee was so sore abashed, that hee wist not what to doe: but yet at last having the nature and courage of a man, hee turned to her, using many amorous speeches, embracing and kissing each other in such manner, that faire Calia was conceived with Child, and wist great of a right faire Sonne: of whom she was in processe of time safely delivered: as you shall heere discouered of at large in the following Epistolie.

What to be short, during the space of foure Moneths, the Fairy Ladies lay with the English knights, and many of them were conceived with their seede in such sort, that the Countrey was afterward reseeded with male Children, and what happened amongst them in the meane season I will passe over for this time: for the dayes and nights (that he and the rest) passe on their wonted course: in which time their ship was replenished with all necessaries, and the Red-rose Knight summoned together Sir Launcelot and the rest: and being assembled, hee said unto them.

My good Friends, and Countrey-men, you know, that long time we haue sojourned in this Countrey, spending our dayes in idle pastimes, to the reproach of our former glories: now my intent is, within these three dayes to depart this Countrey, therefore let every man make himselfe in readinesse: for there is no greater dishonour to aduenturous knights, then to spend their dayes in Ladies bosomes.

When Sir Launcelot and the other English Gentlemen heard the forward disposition of the Red-rose Knight, they were all

arise,

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exceeding joyfull, and answered him; that with great willingnesse they would all be ready at the time appointed.

But now, when the Fairy Ladies perceived the preparations that the English knights made for their departure, they grew exceedingly sorrowfull, and complained one to another in most grievous manner: but amongst the rest, the Queene was most displeased, who with a sorrowfull and sad heart came unto the Red-rose Knight, and in this manner complained to him.

Alas, alas, my deare Lord, haue ye that tyrannous heart, to withdraw your selfe from me, and so forsake me before you see the fruit of your Noble person, which is nourished with my blood. Deare knight, behold with pittie my wombe, the chamber and mansion of your blood: Oh let that be a meanes to stay you, that my child (as yet unborn) be not fatherlesse by your departure. And in speaking these words, she began to weepe and sigh bitterly, and after to whisper secretly to her selfe in this order.

Oh you immortall heavens, how may mine eyes behold the departure of my joy! for being gone, all comfort in the world will forsake me, and all consolation fly from me: and contrariwise, all sorrow will pursue me, and all misfortune come against me. Oh what a sorrow will it be to my soule, to see thee floating on the dangerous Seas, where every minute, perils doe arise ready towhelme thee in the bottomlesse Ocean! and being once exempted from my sight, my heart for our moze ly in the bed of tribulation, vnder the couerture of mostall distresses, and betwene the thursts of eternall bewailings. Yet if there be no remedy, but that thou wilt needs depart, sweare unto me, that if ever thou dost accomplish thy pretended voyage, (what it is I know not) that thou wilt returne againe to this Countrey, to tell me of thy happy fortunes, and that mine eyes may once moze behold thy lovely countenance, which is as delectable to my soule, as the joyes of Paradise.

When the Noble English knight understood that the Queene consented to his departure, upon condition of his returne to which he solemnly protested, if the Gods gave him life and good fortune, to performe her request: whereupon the

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Fayrie Queene was somewhat recomforted: and having great hope in the returne of her deare Love, she crased her lamentations. And now (to abide the story) the time came that the valiant Englishmen should see a ship-board: upon which day, the Red-rose Knight and his followers, took leave of the noble Queene and her Ladies, thanking them for their kind entertainments, and so went to the Port of the Sea, where they entered their ships, and so departed from the Fayrie Land. After this, when Celia had borne her Babe in her wombe full forty weeks she was delivered of a faire Son, who came afterwards to be called the Fayrie Knight: which for this time we will not touch, but refer it to the second part of this history.

CHAP. V.

What happened to the English Knights, after their departure from the Fayrie Land.



Vith a prosperous Wind sailes these English Knights, many a League from the Fayrie Land, to their great content and hearts desire, where every thing seemed to prognosticate their happy Adventures: so upon a day when the Sunne shone cleare, and a gentle calme Wind caused the Seas to lye as smooth as Chalked Ice, whereby their ship lay floating on the Waves, not able to remove: For whilst the Dolphins danced upon the siluer streames, and the red gild fishes leapt about the ship, the Red-rose Knight requested Sir Lancelot, to vntie away the time with some Courtly Discourse, whereby they might not thinke their tymeage over long. Unto which the good Sir Lancelot most willingly agreed: and although he was a Martiall Knight, delighting to heare the resistent sound of angry Drums, which thunders threats from a Gallies, yet could hee like an Orator, as well discourse as hee is a King: therefore requesting the Red-rose Knight, and the other English

the Red-rose Knight

English Gentlemen, to sit downe and listen to the Tale that followeth.

The pleasant History which Sir Lancelot as Iake told to the Red-rose Knight, being a Ship-board.

At that time of the yeare, when the yre had nipt among the tawny leaues, and Flora with her pleasant flowers, had enriched the earth, and incloathed Trees, Herbes, and flowers, with sweetes Apurrie, when the golden Sunne with his glistering beames did glad mens hearts, and every leafe as it were, did beare the forme of Love, by Nature painted upon it: This blessed time did cause the Grecian Emperour to proclaim a solemne Tournament to be holden in his Court, which as then was replenished with many worthy and valiant Knights: but his desire chiefly was, to beholde his Princely Sonne Valentine, to try his valour in the Tournament.

Many were the Ladies that repaired thither, to beholde the worthy triumphs of this young Prince: amongst which number, came the beautifull Dulsippa, a Mayden which as then waited upon the Emperesse, being daughter to a Courtly Gentleman. This Dulsippa, like Apollos flower, being the sayest virgin in that company, had so firmly settled her love upon the Emperours Son, that it was impossible to expell it from her heart. Likewise his affection was no lesse in seruencie then her: so that there was a iust equality in their loves and liking, though a difference in their Birthes and Callings.

This Princely Valentine, (for so was the Emperours Sonne called) entered the listes in costly Armour most richly wrought with Orient Wearies, his Crest encompassed with Saphire Stones, and in his hand a surbie lance. Thus mounted upon a milke-white steed, he vaunted forth himselfe to try his warlike force: and in praucing vp and downe he many times (thrusting his lance) took a view of his faire Dulsippas face: at which time, there kindled in his breast two sundry flames: the one was to win the honour of the day.

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day; the other, to obtaine the loue of his Mistress. On the other side, Dulcippa did nothing but reposit the valiant acts of his prowess and chivalrie, in such sort, that there was no other talks amongst the Ladies, but of Valentines honourable attempts.

So sooner was the Tournaments ended and this loue begun, but Dulcippa departed to her lodging, where sighs did serve as bellowses to kindle Loues fire. Valentine in like manner being wounded to death, still cometh by and doth to find a salve for his wanchester thirst: so seeks Dulcippa to redde her former liberty: so, she being both beloued, and in loue knows not the meanes to comfort her selfe. Sometimes she did exclaime against her wandring eyes, & wished they had been blind when first they gazed upon the beauty of Prince Valentine: Sometimes in visions she beheld his face cheerefull, smiling upon her countenance: and presently againe, she thought she saw his martiall hands bathed all in purple blood, seizing her loue and former courtesies. With that she started from her dreaming passion, washing her tender hands, till floods of silver dropping teares trickled downe her face: Her golden hayze that had wont to be bound up in thyebds of gold, hung dangling downe about her necke: the which in most outrageous sort she rent and toze, till that her hayze which before lookt like burnisht gold, were dyed now in purple and Vermillion blood. In this strange passion remained this distressed Lady, till the Golden Sunne had thrice times lodged him in the Western Seas, and the silver Moone her shining face in the Pallace of the Crystal Clouds. At this time a heavy slumber possessed all her senses: for she, whose eyes before in thre dayes, and as many nights, had not shut up their closets, was now lockt up in silent slape, lest her heart overburthened with griefe, by some butinckly manner should destroy it selfe.

What now returne we to the worthy Valentine, who sought not to pine in passion, but to court it with the best, considering with himselfe, that a saint heart neuer gain'd faire Lady: therefore he purposed boldly to discover his loue to the faire Dulcippa, building upon a fortunate success, considering that she was but Daughter to a Gentleman, and he a Prince borne, so

attiring

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attiring himselfe in costly silkes, wearing in his hatte, an Indian Pearle cut out of Ruby red. On either side a golden Arrow thrust through a bleeding heart; to declare his earnest affection. In this manner went he to his beloued Lady, whom he found in company of other Ladies waighting upon the Emperesse: who taking her by the hand, he led her aside into a Chappell where adorning: where he began in this manner to expresse the passion of his loue.

Hallowed Dulcippa, (quoth he) in beauty brighter then glistering Cynthia, when with her beames she beautifies the vales of Heaven. What art that Cynthia, that with thy brightnesse dost light my cloudy thoughts, which haue many dayes beene once cast with stormy showers of Loue: Shine with thy beames of mercie on my mind, and let thy light conduct mee from the darke and obscure Labyrinthes of Loue. If teares could speake, then should my tongue keepe silence: Therefore, let my sighes be messengers of true loue. And though in words I am not able to deliver the true meaning of my desires: yet let my cause begge pittie at your hands. Otherwise your deniell doth wone my soule in a bottomlesse sea of sorrow: one of these two (most beauteous Lady) doe I desire: either to giue life with a cheerefull smile, or death with a fatall frowne. Valentine hauing no sooner ended his loues oration, but she with a scarlet countenance, returned him this sayfull answer.

Oft noble Prince, thy words within my heart haue knit a gerbian knot, which no earthly might may untie: for it is knitte with faithfull Loue, and teares, distilling from a constant minde. My heart which neuer yet was subiect to any one doe I freely yeld up into thy bosome, where it for euer more shall rest, till the fatall sisters cut our lines asunder. And in speaking these words they kissed each other as the first earnest of their loues. With that the Emperesse came thence to the Gallerie, who espying their secret conference, presently waked in her secret hate, which she intended to practise against the guiltlesse Lady, thinking it a scandall to her Sonnes birth to match in marriage with one of so base a parentage: Therefore purposing to crosse their loues with dis-

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small Stratagems, and deadly Tragedies, she departed to her Chamber, where she clokes her treacheries by in silence, and pondered in her heart how she might end their lones, and Antly Dulcippas life. In this tragicall imagination remained she all that night hammering in her head a thousand severall practices. But no sooner was the deawy earth comforted with the hot beames of Apollos fire, but this thirsting Emperesse arose from her carefull bed, penning her selfe closely within her Chamber, like one that made no conscience for to kill: she in all hast sent for a Doctor of Physicke, not to give Physicke to restore health, but poison for untimely death; who being no sooner come into her presence, but presently she lockt her Chamber doore, and with an angry countenance, staring him in the face, she began thus his honour into his harmlesse eares.

Doctor, thou knowest how oft in secret matters I have used thy helpe, wherein as yet I never saw thy faith falsified: but now amongst the rest I am to require thy aid in an earnest business, so secret, that if thou dost but tell it to the whispering winde, it is sufficient to spread it through the whole world: whereby my practices may be discovered, and I be made a noted reproach to all hearers.

Spadam (quoth the Doctor, whose heart harboured no thought of bloody deeds) what needs all these circumstances where only doth command my true obedience: be still not there, soe, gentle Emperesse, to make me psume to your thoughts: for little did hee thinke her mind could harbour so vile a thought: but having considered most strongly his secretie, he spake to him as followeth.

Doctor, the lone (nay rather raging lust) which I have spee'd of late betwixt my unnaturall sonne, and young Dulcippa may in short time (as thou knowest) bring a subaine alteration of our state, considering that he being borne a Prince, and descended from a royall race, should match in marriage with a base and ignoble Mayden, daughter but to a mean Gentleman: therefore if I should suffer this secret lone to goe forthward, and seeke not to prevent it, the Emperour might condemne me of falshood, and judge me an agent in this unlaustall lone; which to avoid, I have a practice in my head, and in thy hand it lies to

the Red rose Knight.

to procure the Princes happinesse, and Countreyes good. Dulcippas father (as thou knowest) dwells about thre miles from my Pallace, unto whose house I will this day send Dulcippe, about such business as I thinke best, where thou shalt be appointed, and none but thou to conduct her thither: where in a thick and bushy groue, which standeth directly in the mid-way, thou shalt give her the cup of death, and so rid my heart from suspicious thoughts.

This bloody practice being pronounced by the Emperesse, caused such a terror to enter into the Doctors minde, that he trembled forth this sorrowfull complaint.

O ye immortal powers of heaven, you governer of my haplesse fortunes, why have you thus ordained me to be the bloody murderer of a chaste and vertuous Lady, and the true pattern of sobriety; whose untimely overthrow if I should but once conspire, Diana's Nymphs would turne their wofull pictures, and staine their hands with my accursed blood: therefore, most glorious Emperesse, cease your determination, for my heart will not suffer my hand to commit so foule a villany.

And wilt thou not doe it then (replied the Emperesse, with a minde fraught with rage and blood:) I doe protest (quoth she) by Heavens bright Pallacie, except thou dost consent to accomplish my intent, thy head shall warrant this my secretie. Stand not on termes, my resolute attempt is cleane impatient of objections.

The Doctor hearing her resolution, and that nothing but Dulcippas death might satisfie her wraith, hee consented to her request (and purposed runningly to assemble with the bloody Quene) who belieued that hee would performe what she so much desired: so departing out of her chamber, she went to the guiltlesse Lady, sending her on this fatal message, who like to haplesse Bellerophon was ready to carry an embassage of her owne death. But in the meane time the Doctor harboured in his breast a world of bitter woes, to thinke how vilely this vertuous Lady was betrayed: and considering in his mind, how that he was forced by constraint to performe this tragedy; therefore hee purposed not to give her a cup of poison, but a sleeping

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Dynke, to cast her into a trance, which she should as a cup of death receive; as well to try her vertuous Constancie, as to rid himselfe from so heinous a crime.

But now returns free to Dulcippa, who being sped of her message, went with the Doctor walking on the way, where all the talke which they had was of the liberall praise of Prince Valentine, who remained in Court, little mistrusting what had happened to his beloved Lady: and she likewise ignorant of the hurt that was pretended against her life: but being both alone together in the wood, where nothing was heard but chirping Birds, which with their voyces seemed to mourne at the Ladies misfortune. But now the Doctor breaking off their former talke, took occasion to speake as followeth.

Span of all other creatures (most vertuous Lady) is most miserable, for Nature hath ordained to every Bird a pleasant tune to bemoane their mishaps, the Nightingale both compleane her Rape and lost Virginitie within the desert Groves: the Swanne both likewise sing a dolefull heauie tune a while before she dies, as though heauen had inspired her with some foreknowledge of things to come. You Madame, now must sing your Swan-like song; for the pretty Birds (I see) doe shake their hanging heads, and moune to think that you must die. Pardon me not Madam, the angry Duke will haue it so. Accurst am I in being constrained to see the bloody instrument of so tyrannous a fact. Accurst am I that haue obtained that Cup, which must by Poyson slench the thirst of the bloody Empresse: and most accursed am I, that cannot withstand the angry Fates, which haue appointed mee to offer violence unto vertue. And in speaking these words, he deliuered the Cup into the Ladies hands: who like a Lambe that was led to the slaughter, bled silence for her crime. Many times lift shee up her eyes toward the sacred Throne of Heauen, as though the gods had sent downe vengeance upon her guiltlesse soule, and at last breathed forth these sorrowfull lamentations.

Nerer (saith shee) shall vertue scope to die. Nerer shall Death affright my soule; no; never Poyson quench that last desire, which my true heart doth beare to Prince Valentine,

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vine: whose Spirits (I hope) shall meet mee in the joyfull fields of Elizium, to call these Ghosts, that dyed for Faithfull love, to beare me witness of my Faith and Loyalty: and so taking the Cup, she said; Come, come, thou most blessed Cup, wherein is contained that happy Dynke, which giues rest to troubled minds. And thou most blessed Wood, beare witness, that I mixe this banefull Dynke with teares distilling from my bleeding heart. These Lips of mine that had went to kisse Prince Valentine shall now most willingly kisse this Ground, that must receiue my Corpse. The author of my death, He bidde; for he honours me, in that I die for my sweet Valentines sake. And now Doctor to thee (being the instrument of this my Death) I doe bequeath all earthly happiness: and here withall, I dynke to Valentines good fortune: And thinking of the sleeping Potion, she was presently cast into a trance; which shee poore Lady, supposed death. The Doctor greatly admiring at her vertuous mind, erected her body against an aged Oake, where he left her sleeping, and with all speed returned to the hatefull Duke, and told her, that he had performed her Spasmodic command: who gaue him many thanks, and promised to requite his service with a large recompence.

But now speake we againe of Prince Valentine, who had intelligence, how the onely comfort of his heart had ended her life by poysons violence: for which cause, he leaues the Court; and conuerter his rich attire to rathfull robes: his costly coloured Garments, to a homely russet Coat; and so traveling to the solitary woods, he vowed to spend the rest of his dayes in a Shepherds life: his royall Scepter was turned into a simple Shepheards staffe, and all his pleasure was to keepe his Sheepe from the teeth of the rauenous Wolves.

Three times had glittering Phoebe reioiced her rosy wings, and deckt the elements with her smiling countenance: Three moneths were past, three Moones had likewise runne their wonted compasse, before the Cretian Emperour with his Princely Sonne: whose want was no sooner dyted through the Court, but hee reioiced forth this honour to himselfe.

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What cursed Planet thus indirectly rules my haplesse courser
 as what uncouth daryng fate hath becomen me of my Prince-
 ly Son: lone send downe thy burning Thunderbolts, and
 strike them dead that be procurers of his want: But if, (Sweet
 Venus) he be dead for lone, honor his Ghost before mine eyes
 that he may discover the cause of his afflictions. But contrari-
 wise, if his life be snatched by the fury of some murderous mind,
 then let my exclamations pierce to the iustfull Spates of
 Heavens, that neuer Sun may shine upon his hated head,
 which is the cause of my Valentines decay: O, that the angry
 Furies may lend me their burning whips, incessantly to scourge
 their purple soles, till my Sons wrongs be sufficiently re-
 mended. Thus, as in such a like frantick humour ranne he by
 and downe his Pallace, till Reason pacified his outrageous
 thoughts, and by perswasion of his Lords, he was brought into
 his quiet bed. Meane space, Diana (the Queene of Chastitie)
 with a traine of beautifull Symphs, by chance came through
 the Wood where Dulcippa was left in her trance: in which
 place, seeing the Whickets in pursuit of a wild Hart, the
 Queene of Chastitie espied the harmlesse Lady standing against
 a Tree, and beheld her most breath to passe through her closed
 lips: At whose presence, the Queene awhile stood wondering at;
 but at last with her sacred hand she awaked her, & withall asked
 the cause of her trance, and by what meanes she came thither:
 Which poore awaked Lady, being amazed both at her sudden
 Spiesse, and the strangenesse of her passed fortunes and di-
 stresses, with farrre fetcht sighes, shee related what happened to
 her in those desert Woods. The heavenly Goddess being mo-
 ved with pittie, with a most smiling voyce cheared her up, and
 with a Lilly taken from the ground, she wiped the teares from
 off Dulcippas tender cheeks, which like a silver trickled from
 her Chrysell eyes. This being done, Diana with an Angels
 voyce, spake unto her as followeth:

Sweet Virgin (so is it seemeth thou art) sacre better
 would it best thy happy estate (happy I terme it) having past
 so many dangers, to spend the remnant of thy life amongst my
 Traine of Symphs, whereas springeth nothing but Chastity
 and puritie of life. Dulcippa, though in her lone both Arme and
 constant,

the Red-rose Knight

constant, yet did she condescend to dwell with Dianas Symphs:
 where now, instead of parly with Courtly Gallants, shee sing-
 eth Songs, Carols, and Roundelays: in stead of Men and
 Jnke, wherewith she was wont to write Love-letters, shee
 exerciseth her Bow and Arrows, to kill the swift fat Deere:
 and her downy Beds are pleasant Groves, where pretty Lambs
 doe graze.

But now returne we againe to the raging Emperour,
 who stted the matter out in such sort, that he found the Em-
 presse guiltie of her Sons want, and the Doctor to be the
 instrument of Dulcippas death: who being desperat (like one
 that utterly detested the cruelty of the Emperesse) would not
 allego, that he had but set the Lady in a trance, but openly
 confest that he had poisoned her and for that sad was willing
 to offer up his life to satiate the Law, therefore the angry
 Emperour sweares, that nothing shall satiate his Mothers
 reuengement but death: and thereupon straightly comman-
 ded the Emperesse to be put in prison, and the Doctor likewise
 to be lockt in a strong Tower: but yet because shee was his
 lawfull Wife, and a Princesse borne, he something sought to
 mitigate the Law, that if anyone within a tweluemonth and a
 day would come and offer himselfe to combat in her cause a-
 gainst himselfe, which would be the appealant Champion, he
 should haue life: if not to be burnt to ashes, in sacrifice of his
 Sons death: all which was performed as the Emperour had
 commanded.

But now all this while the poore Prince liues alone within
 the Woods, making his complaints to the flocks of Sheepe
 and washing their wooll with his distressed teares. His bed
 whereon his body rested, was turne into a Sun-burnt banke:
 his chaire of state, covered with grasse: his muscke, the whist-
 ling winds: the Methoycke, pitifull complaints and moanes,
 wherewith he bewailed his passed fortunes, and the bitter cross-
 es of his unhappy loue.

The solitarie place wherein this Prince remained, was
 not farre distant from the Grove, where Dulcippa led her sa-
 cred life: who by chance in a morning at the Sunnes appea-
 ring, attired in greene bediments, bearing in her hand a
 Bow,

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Now bended, and a quill of arrowes hanging at her backe, with her harte tied by in a golden wreath, left the Bushes which carry her golden arrowes to beautifie their branches: in this manner comming to hunt a strange hart, she was surprized by a bloody Satyre bent to rape, who with a bloody mind pursued her: and comming to the same place where Prince Valentine see his mourning Lambs, he overtake her, inherent she gave such a terrible shriek in the wood, that she stirred up the Shepherds princely mind to rescue her: but now when the bloody Satyre beheld a face of sweetly shrouded in a Shepherds clothing, immediately he leaped through the woods more swift then euer the fearfull Deere did run.

But now gentle Reader, here stay to read a while, and thinke upon the happy meeting of these Lovers: for surely the imagination thereof will lead a golden wit into the labyrinth of heavenly loves: but being breathlesse in any thing passed dangers, they could not speake a word, but with fixed eyes stood gazing each other in the face: but comming againe to their former senses, Valentine brake silence with this wavering speech.

What heavenly might art thou (quoth hee) which with thy beautie hast inspired me?

I am no Goddess (replied she againe) but a Virgin betwixt to keepe Diana company, Dulcippa my name: a Lady sometime in the Grecian Court, whilst happy fortune smiled; but being cross in love, here doe I now to spend the remnant of my dayes. And with that, he catching the word out of her mouth, said:

O you immortal Gods: and is my Dulcippa yet alive? I, I, alive I see she is: I see that sweet celestiall beautie in her face, which hath banished deepe sorrow from my heart: and with that kissing her, he said; Now, see, fairest of all faires that nature ever made, I am thy Valentine, that unhappy one, the Prince of Greece, the Emperours true Sonne, who for the loves sake am thus disguised, and for the loves have left the gallant Court, for this sweet and homely country life. With that, he took him about his manly necke, and breathed many a bitter sigh into his bosome: and after with

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Weeping teares, discoursed all her passed dangers, as well the crueltie of the Emperesse, as of the bestious deed of the good Dodoz. And having both recounted their passed fortunes, they consented (disguised as they were) to travell to the Grecian Court to see if the Destinies had transformed the state of the Emperour or his regiment; for now no longer out-cries, nor heinie stratagems, nor sorrowfull thoughts sought to pursue them; but smiling fortune, gracious delights, and happy blessings. Now Fortune neuer meant to turne her wheels againe, to cross them with calamities, but intended with her hand to powre into their hearts oyle of lasting peace. Thus whilst Apollos beames did parch the tender twigs, these two Lovers late still under the branches of a shade which, rescued still their loves and pleasures: and sitting both thus upon a grassy bancke, there came travelling by them an aged old man: bearing in his withered hand a staffe to stay his benumbed body: whose face when Prince Valentine beheld, with a gentle voyce he spake unto him in this sort.

Father, God save you: How hapneth that you wearied with age, doe travell through the desert Zones, bestitting such as can withstand the checks of Fortunes sicklenesse? Come faire old man sit downe by vs: whose minds of late were mangled with griefe, and cross with worldly cares.

This good old Hermite hearing the courteous request of the Prince, sat downe by them, and in sitting downe, he tumbled forth this speech.

I come (young man) from yonder Citie, whereas the Emperour holds a heinie Court, and makes exceeding sorrow for the want of his eldest Sonne, and for a Lady which is likewise absent: the Emperesse being found guilty of their wants, is kept close prisoner, and is condemned to be burnt, unless within a twelue moneth and a day, she can get a Champion that will enter Battaille in her cause: and with her, a Dodoz also is aduogued to suffer death. Great is the sorrow that is there made for this noble Prince, and none but commends his vertue: and withall the deserved prayes of the absent Lady.

Father (replied then the Prince) thou hast told vs tidings
full

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fall of bitter truth, able to enforce an iron heart to lament: for cruell to the wrong, and most unnaturall the Emperour, to deale so hardly with his Queene.

May (quoth the old man) if she be guilty, I cannot pittie her, that will cause the ruine of so good a Prince: for higher powers must give example unto their subiects.

By Lady Father (quoth the princely shepheard) you can well guess of matters touching Kings: and to be a witness of this accident, we will presently goe unto the Court and see what shall betide unto this distressed Queene. This being said, they left the aged man, and so traualled towards the German Court: and by the way, these Lovers did consult, that Prince Valentine attired like a shepheard, should offer himselfe to combat in his Fathers cause, and so to expresse the kinde love and nature which was lodged in his princely breast. But being no sooner arrived in the Court, and seeing his Father to take the combat upon himselfe, presently he knelled downe, and like an obedient Sonne, discovered himselfe, and withall Dulcippas strange fortunes: whereupon the Emperesse and the Doyss were presently delivered, and did both most willingly consent to loyne these two Lovers in the bands of Marriage: whereafter they spent their dayes in peace and happiness.

This pleasant Discourse being ended, which Sir Lancelot had told to the exceeding pleasure of the greatest company, but especially of the Red-rose Knight, who gave many kind thanks. At this time the winds began to rise, and blow cheerfully, by which they sayled on their journey successfull from one coast to another, till at the last they arrived upon the coasts of Prester Johns Land, which was in an evening when the day began to lose her chrysell mantle, and to give place to the sable garments of gloomy night: where they cast Anchor, unknown of any of that Countrey Inhabitants.

CHAP.

the Red-rose Knight.

CHAP. VI.

What happened to the Red-rose Knight, and his company in the Court of Prester John; and how the Red-rose Knight slew a Dragon with three tongues, that kept a Golden tree in the same Countrey; with other attempts that happened.



The next morning by the breake of day, the Red-rose Knight rose from his Cabbin, and went upon the Hatch of the ship, casting his eyes round about, to see if he could spy some Towns or Citie where they might take harbour: and in looking about he espied a great spacious Citie, in the middle whereof stood a most sumptuous Pallace, having many high Towers standing in the aire like the Grecian Pyramides, the which he supposed to be the Pallace of some great Potentate: therefore calling Sir Lancelot (with two other Knights) unto him, he requested them to goe up in to the Citie, and to enquire of the Countrey, and who was the Governour thereof: the which thing they promised to doe: so arming themselves (as it was convenient, being Strangers in that Countrey) they went up into the Citie; where they were presently presented unto Prester John, who (being alwayes liberal and courteous unto Strangers) gave them a royall entertainment, leading them up into his Pallace: and having intelligence that they were Englishmen, and adventurous travellers, hee sent some of his Knights for the rest of their company, desiring them in the Knights behalfe to returne to the Court, where they should have a friendly welcome, and a knightly entertainment.

Thus when the Red-rose Knight had understood the will of Prester John by his four Knights, the next evening with his whole company hee repayed to the Citie, which was right noble and faire, and although it was night, yet were the Streets as light as though it had beene mid-day, by the cleare

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resplendent brightness of Torches, Cressets, and other Lights which the Citizens ordained to the entertaining of the English Knights. The Straits through which they passed to goe to the Kings Pallace, were filled with people, as Wargomasters, knights, and Gentlemen, with Ladies and beautifull Damselfs, which in comely order stood beholding their coming. But when the Red-rose Knight was entred the Pallace, he found the renowned Prester John sitting upon his Princely Throne, encompassed with pillars of Jasper Stone: who after he had given them an honourable welcome, he took the Red-rose Knight by the hand, and led him by into a large and sumptuous Hall, the richest that euer he had seene in all his life: But in going by certaine staires he looked in at a window, and sipped faire Anglicora the Kings daughter, sporting amongst other Ladies; which was the fayrest spaye that euer mortall eye beheld, and I thinke that Nature her selfe could not frame her like: but being entred the Hall, they found the Tables covered with costly fare ready for supper: when as the English Knights were set at the Kings Table, in company of Prester John and Anglicora, with other Ladies attending (having good stomacks) they fed lustily; but Anglicora, which was placed right ouer against the Red-rose Knight, fed onely upon his beauty and Princely behaviour, not being able to withhold her eyes from his diuine excellencie: but the renowned Prester John for his part spent away the supper time with many pleasant conferences touching the Countrey of England, and King Arthurs Princely court: the report of which fame had so often sounded in his eares. But amongst all other deuises, he told the English Knights of a Tree of gold, which now grew in his Realme, and yearely brought forth golden fruit but he could not enjoy the benefit thereof, by reason of a cruell Dragon that continually kept it: for the conquest of which golden tree, he had many times solemnly proclaimed through that part of the World, that if any Knight durst attempt to conquer it, and by good fortune bring the adventure to an end, he should haue in reward the 200 his Daughter the faire Anglicora in marriage: to which many knights resorted, as well of foraigne Countreys, as his owne Nation; but none proved so fortunate to

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the Red-rose Knight.

accomplish the wished conquest, but lost their liues in the same adventure: therefore I fully believe, if all the knights in the world were assembled together, yet were they all insufficient to overcome that terrible Dragon.

With that the Red-rose Knight with a bold courage stood up, and protested by the lorie he bore vnto his countrey King, he would performe the enterpryse, or lose his life in the attempt: so in this resolution he remained all supper time, which being ended, the English Knights were brought into diuers chambers: but amongst the rest, the Red-rose Knight and Sir Launcelot were lodged nere to the fayre Anglicora, for there was nothing betwixt their Chambers, but a little Gallery: into which being come, and no sooner laid in their beds, but the Red-rose Knight began to conferre with Sir Launcelot in this manner.

What thinke you (quoth he) of the enterpryse I haue taken in hand? Is it not a deed of honour and renowne?

Surely (replied Sir Launcelot) in my iudgement it is an enterpryse of death: for euery man in this countrey aduudgeth you overcome and destroyed, if you but once approach the sight of the Dragon; therefore be aduised, and goe not to this perillous adventure, for you can obtaine nothing thereby but reproach and death: and doubtlesse they are counted wise that can shun the misadventures, & keepe themselves from danger.

But then (quoth the Red-rose Knight) shall I falsifie my promise; and the promise of a noble mind ought still to be kept: therefore, ere I will infringe my vow I haue made, I will be honoured by the terrible Dragon; And in speaking these words they fell asleepe.

During which time of their conference, fayre Anglicora stood at their chamber doore and heard all that had passed betwixt them, and was so surprisled with the lorie of this gentle Red-rose Knight, that by no meanes she could restraime her affections: and returning to her chamber, casting her selfe vpon her bed thinking to haue slept, but could not, she began to say secretly to her selfe, this sorrowfull lamentation.

Alas mine eyes, what torment is this you haue put my heart vnto? for I am not the woman that I was wont to be.

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for my heart is filled with a flame of amorous desires, and is subject to the love of this gallant English Knight, the beaute of the world, and the glory of Christendome. But send some that I am, wherefore doe I desire the thing which may not be gotten, for I greatly feare that he is already betrothed to a Lady in his owne Country. And furthermore his mind is garnished with Princely cogitations, that I may not enjoy his Love: and he thinketh no more of me, then on her that he never saw. But grant that he doe set his affection upon me, yet were it to small purpose, for he resolved to adventure his life in the conquest of the Golden tree, where he will soon be honoured by the terrible Dragon. Ah, what a griefe and sorow will it be to my heart, when I shall heare of his untimely death, for he is the choice of all Princes, the Prince of Nobilitie, and the flower of manhood: for I have heard him say, that he had rather die honourably in accomplishing his vow, then to returne with reproach into England. Which happy country, if these eyes of mine might but once behold, then were my soule possessed with terrestriall ioyes. Anglitora with these words fell asleepe, and so passed the night away till the day came: in whom no sooner with his bright beames glistered against the Palace walls, but the Red-rose Knight arose from his bed, and armed himselfe in great courage, ready for the adventure: where after he had taken leave of the King, and all the rest of his English friends, he departed forth of the Citie towards the Golden tree, which stood in a low valley, some two miles from the Kings Palace.

This morning was saye and cleare, and not a cloud was seene, the elements and the Sun cast his resplendent beames upon the earth: at which time the Ladies and Damels mounted upon the highest Towers in the Pallace, and the common people came up to the battlements and walls of Churches, to behold the adventure of this valiant Knight, who as they went most ioyfully on his journey, till he came to the vale of the Golden tree, wherein being no sooner entred, but he beheld a most cruell and terrible Dragon come springing out of his hollow Cane. This Dragon was farre more bigger then a horse, in length full thirtie foot, the which instantenly as

soone

the Red-rose Knight.

soone as hee was out of his Cane, began to raise his necke, set up his eares, and to stretch himselfe, opened his throat, and casting forth thereat most monstrous burning flames of fire: When the Red-rose Knight drew out his good sword, and went towards him, wherewith the Dragon opened his terrible throat, wherewith spang three tongues, casting forth flaming fire in such sort, that it had almost burnt him. The first blow that the Knight stricke, hit the Dragon betwixt the two eyes so furiously that he staggered: but being reconcred, and feeling himselfe most grievously hurt, he discharged from his throat such abundance of thicke smoking smoke, that it blinded the Knight in such sort, that he saw nothing: but yet notwithstanding he lifted up his sword, and discharged it upon the Dragon where he imagined his head was, and stricke so furious a blow, that hee cut off his three tongues close by their roots: by which the Dragon endured such marvellous paine, that hee turned his body so suddenly round, that his tayle smote the valiant Knight a mighty blow upon his backe, whereby he fell downe upon the sands; being thus overthrowne, hee was in mind most marvellously ashamed, but after a while, having reconcred himselfe, he ran to the Dragon againe, and with his good sword smote such a terrible blow upon his tayle, that it cut it off in the middle: the which piece was seven foot in length. The Dragon though the great paine that he felt, came and incontinently the Knight in such a fashion, that he beat him downe to the ground, and after stood over him as though he had bene dead: but the Knight take his sword, and underneath him thrust it up to the hilt so farre that it pierced his heart; which when the Dragon felt as smitten to death, began to run away with the sword sticking in his belly, thinking to have hidden himselfe in his Cane, but his life departed before he could get thither. Instantenly, when the Red-rose Knight had rested himselfe, and saw that the Dragon was dead, hee recomforced himselfe, and went and drew out his sword from his belly, which was all so beset with his blacke blood, and after take the Dragons three tongues and stucke them upon his sword; and likewise pulled a branch from the golden Tree, which hee

boze

Tom a Lincolne

boze in his hand: and so in triumph went towards the Citty; and being come within the sight thereof, hee lifted up the Golden branch into the ayre as high as hee could, that might glister in the sunne for the people to behold, (which stood upon high Turrets, expecting his coming) who perceiving it with great admiration began to wonder. Some there were that gathered greene Herbes and flowers, and streved the way whereas the Knight should passe to goe to the Kings Pallace, saying: that all Honour ought to be given to so noble and glorious a Conquerour.

Faire Anglitora amongst all other, was most ioyfull, when she beheld the glittering brightnesse of the Golden branch, and commanded her waiting-maids to put on their richest attires, to solemnize the honour of that excellent Victory.

And to conclude, he was met at the Citty gate, with the multitude of Drums and Trumpets, and so conducted to the Kings Pallace: where he was richly honourably entertained of Prester John and his Nobles. Surely there is no man so eloquent, that can discourse by waiting the great joy that Anglitora took at his returne: and generally the whole Inhabitants had thereat exceeding pleasure.

But now when the valiant Red-rose Knight had entered the Hall, and had set the Golden branch upon an Ivory Cup-board richly furnished with costly plate, the English Knights and many other Ladies began to dance most ioyfully, and to spend the time in delicious sports till supper was ready, and then the King and the Red-rose Knight was set, and with them, the noble and faire Anglitora, Launcelot du Lake, and other English Knights: where (all supper while) there was no other conference holden, but of the valiant encounters of the Red-rose Knight: who for his part did nothing but make secret love signes to faire Anglitora.

What shall I make long circumstances: The supper passed, and the haire came that the generall company withdrew them into their Chambers, the Red-rose Knight was conducted to his Lodging by many noble men and others, which brought the Golden branch after him, and so bequeathed him for that night to his silent rest. But presently after the Noble
men

the Red-rose Knight.

mens departure, Anglitora entred into his Chamber, bearing in her hand a Silver Basin full of Marins perfumed Waters, the which shee had promised to wash the Dragons blood from his body: which when the Red-rose Knight perceiued, and thinking upon the kind love that shee proffered him, put off his Clothes, and made himselfe ready to wash. Faire Anglitora being attired in a white frocke without sleeves, turned up her smocke about her elbowes, and so with her owne hands washed the body of the Red-rose Knight.

But now when this gentle Watcher beheld her lovely Body, her faire and round Breasts, the whitenesse of her flesh, and that he felt her hands meruellous soft, hee was so much inflamed with the ardent desire of love, that in beholding her Beauty, he began to embrace her, and kissed her many times most courteously: and so after, when he had bene well washed, Anglitora caused him to lye in his Bed, beholding his well shaped limbes, of colour faire and quicke, and could not turne her eyes from his sight: Thus as they were beholding each other without speaking any word, at last the noble Knight spake to her in this manner.

Gods beare Lady, you know that by this Conquest, I have deserved to be your Husband, and you, through kind love, to be my Wife: whereby I may say, that you are mine, and I am yours: and of our two Bodies there is but one: Therefore I requyre you to leaue up the first quittance of our loves, which is, that wee two for this night, might sleepe together: and so accomplish the great pleasure that I have so long wished for.

Oh most noble Knight (answered the faire Lady) what in me lyeth (that may bring you the least motion of content) shall with all willingnesse be performed: But yet I censure you by the promise of true Knight-hood, that you will saue mine Honour, lest I be made a scandall to my Fathers glory.

There is no man in the world (quoth he) that shall preserve thine Honour more then I. What if you sleepe this night with me in bed, doe you any more then your dutie, in that I am your Husband, and your beloued friend.

My beare loue (replied she againe) there is no pleasure which
3

Tom a Lincolne

I will deny ye: but for this night, you shall have patience; for I will never sell up the price of my virginity, till my father hath given me in Marriage: and therefore I desire you, that so morrow you will request that favour at his hands: which being granted and performed, then accomplish your content.

When the Red-rose Knight had understood his Ladies mind, he like an honorable Gentleman, was content to obey her request. What shall I say more: but that the night spent on to the morning time of sleep, which caused these two Lovers (for the time) to break off company. Here slept the Red-rose Knight till the next morning; which at the break of day, was presented with a Concoat of spicke, which the King himselfe brought into his Chamber. Their melody so highly contented his mind, that he gave them a Gold Chaine, which was wrapped about his wrist: a gift plainly expressing the bounty that beautified his princely breast. The Physicians being departed, he arose from his rich Bed, and went into the King, whom he found as then walking in a pleasant Garden: of whom he required his Daughter Anglitara in marriage, in recompence of his adventure. The which request so displeased the King, that all his former courtships was exchanged into scorn and spite, and would by no means consent that Anglitara should be his betrothed spouse; and answered: that first, he would lose his Kingdome, before she should be the wife of a wandering knight.

The noble Red-rose Knight, when he understood the unkind answers of Prester John (all abashed) went unto Sir Launcelot, and his other friends, and certified them of all things that had happened: who counselled him, that the next morning they should depart.

After this conclusion, they went to the King, and thanked him for the high Honour hee had given them with: and after that, went and hired their ship, where for that day they passed the time in pleasure: and so when the scouling night approached, the Red-rose Knight went to the faire Anglitara, and certified her of the unkind answers of her cruel father: whereat she grew sorrowfull, and grieved in mind: but

at

the Red-rose Knight.

at last better considering with her selfe, shee resolved her sorrowfully at his pleasure, promising, that for his love, shee would forsake both Countrey, Parents, and Friends, and follow him to what place heere hee pleased to conduct her. And it is to be supposed, that this night the faire Anglitara took all the richest Jewels which shee had, and stowed them in a Parole, and so when it was a little before day, shee came unto the Red-rose Knight and awaked him: who presently made him ready, and so departed secretly from his Chamber, till they came to their ships: where they found all the rest of the English Knights ready to depart: so when they were all aboard they hoisted sayle, and departed from the coast. To whose happy Journey, wee will now leave them for a time, and speake of the discontents of Prester John, who all that night was exceeding sorrowfull for the unkind answers, which he had given to the Red-rose Knight, and so melancholy that he could neither sleepe nor rest: but at the last hee concluded with himselfe, that he would goe and convey the English Knights (at their departing) unto their ships; to the end that being in other Countreys, they might applaud his courtesies unto Strangers.

So in the morning hee arose and went to the Chamber where the Red-rose Knight was lodged, whom hee found departed contrary to his expectation. After that, he went into his Daughters Chamber, where hee found nothing but rentlesse walls, which in paine hee might speake unto: whose absence drove him into such a desperate mind, that hee suddenly ran to the Sea coasts, where hee found many of his Citizens, that shewed him the ships wherein the English Knights were, which was at that time from the coast of Haven, more then halfe a mile. When the King (waving tenderly) demanded of them, if they had seen his Daughter Anglitara? To whom they answered, that they had seen her upon the ship Witches in company of the Red-rose Knight. At which the King bitterly lamented, beating his Breast, and tearing his milke-white haire from his Head, using such violence against himselfe, that it greatly grieved the beholders.

At that time there was many of his Lords present, who by

Tom a Lincolae

gentle persuasions, withpore him from the Sea coasts to his Pallace: where he many dayes after lamented the disobedient sight of his Daughter.

CHAP. VII.

How *Calia* the Queene of the *Fayrie Land* was found dead, floating vpon the waues of the Sea: with other things that happened to the English Knights.

Many dayes the windes blew cheerfully in such sort, that the English ships were within hailing of the *Fayrie Land*: at which Sir *Lancelot* took an occasion to speake vnto the *Red-rose Knight*, and put him in remembrance how hee had promised *Calia* to returne into her Countrey: vnto which he answered, and sayd, That he would keep promise, if the *Destinies* did mispore him life. And thereupon commanded the *Master Pilot* to make thitherward: but the windes not being willing raised such a Tempest on the Sea, that the ship was cast a contrary way, and the Mariners by no means possible could approach the *Fayrie Land*. At which time the noble Queene *Calia* stood by the sea side vpon an high Rocks, beholding the English ship as it passed by, in her small manner was, every day standing, expecting her deare Lones returne, many times making this bitter lamentation to her selfe.

Oh gentle *Neptune*, thou god of Seas, and Windes, where is my dearest Lone: bying him againe vnto mee, that day and night hee waite for his company. What he complained at the same instant when her Lones ship sailed by; for surely she knew it by the Banners and Ensignes which were displayed in the windes: but when the poore Lady perceived the ship to turne from her, she was soe abashed and dismayed. In stead of say she was soe to waite teares: and in stead of singing was constrained to make sorrowfull complaints. In this manner she abode there all that ensuing night, and caused fires, and great

the Red rose Knight.

great lights to be made on the Shore, thinking thereby to call the *Red-rose Knight* vnto her.

This order kept she every day and night for the space of sixe weekes, waiting the want of him, whom she loved more deare then her owne heart: but when the sixe weekes were past, and that the *Fayrie Queene* perceived that she should haue no tydings of her Lone, she went from the Rocks (all in despair) into her Chamber; where being entred, she caused her Lones to be brought vnto her, whom she kissed many times, for the lous she boze vnto his Father: and after beholding the little Infant, crossing her armes with a sigh comming from the bottom of her heart, she sayd; Alasse my deare Lones, alas thou canst not speake to demand tydings of thy Father, which is the brassest knight, the most verrous, and the most balliant in Armes that God euer formed. Oh where is Nature (sweete Babe) that should enioyne thee to waite, and my selfe more then thee, for the losse of so brasse a Prince; whose face I neuer more shall see! Oh cruell and unkind Fortune! my heart hath concluded that I goe and cast my selfe headlong into the Sea, to the intent that if the Noble knight bee there hanged, I may lye in the same Sepulcher or Combe with him: where contrariwise if hee bee not dead, that the same sea that brought him hither alive, bying me to him being dead. And to conclude, before I commit this desperate murder vpon my selfe, with my blood I will write a Letter, which shall be sewed to my Vestments or Attire, to the intent that if euer my body bee presented to the *Red-rose Knight*, that then this bloody Letter may witnesse the true loue that I boze him, to the houre of my death.

Many Ladies and Damocells were in her company whilst thus she lamented her knights absence; who hearing of her desperate intended death, made exceeding sorrow. Some there were that so mightily grieued, that they could not speake one word: other some there were that sought to perswade her from that desperate intent: but all in vaine: for she presently went from them, and with her owne blood wrote a Letter, and wrapped it in a Searcloth, and then sewed it to the Vestments wherein she was clothed: then taking her Crowne, she bound

Torn a Lincolne

It from her head with a golde chain which the Red-rose Knight befoze time had giuen her. When when she had done all this, she came to her little men, and many times kissed him, and so deliuered him to the Ladies and Damels to be nourished: e is after taking leave of them all, she departed toward the sea, whither being come, she went to the top of the high rocks, where she began to looke betwixt vpon the Sea, and after casting her selfe vpon the Earth, looking vp towards Heauen, she sayd.

Thou God of my Faynes, Lord of the winds and seas: thou that broughtest into this Countrey the right perfect Knight, in beauty, manhood, and all vertues, grant that when my soule hath made passage out of this world, my body may be intombed in his belome: which words being sayd, she turned her eyes towardes her Pallace, and spake with a high voyce: Adieu my deare Babe, adieu you glistering Towers, my royall Pallace: adieu Ladies and Damels: and lastly, adieu to all the world: And in saying so she cast her selfe into the Sea, and there desperately dyed her selfe.

But yet such was her fortune, that the waves of the Sea boye her dead body the same day to the English Knights ship, which as then lay in a Road where they had cast Anchor: so to rest that night, and to be short, it so hapned at the same houre when her dead body was cast against the ship, the Red-rose Knight went vp the latches to take the fresh ayre: where (looking about) he espied the dead Lady richly attyred in cloth of Gold, that gorgiously shone in the water, the which he presently caused to be taken vp and brought into the ship: where looking wisely vpon her, he knewe her perfectly well: and after stooping to kisse her pale Lips, hee found a bloody Letter which she had compiled, wrapt in heare-cloth: so, taking it and reading the contents thereof, his blood began to change, and to waue red like the Rose, and presently againe as pale as ashes. Whereat Sir Launcelot and the other Knights were greatly abashed, but especially Anglitora, who demanded the cause of his griefe: Whereunto the Red-rose Knight was not able to answer a word, the sorrow of his heart so exceeded: yet notwithstanding he deliuered the bloody letter to Anglitora, the contents whereof are these that follow.

The

The Bloody Letter of Queene Cælia.

THou bright Star of *Europe*, thou Chosen of *England* for prowesse & beauty, when wilt thou returne to fulfill thy promise made vnto her, that many a day hath had her eyes planted vpon the Seas after thee, shedding more teares in thy absence, then the Heauens containe Starres? Ah my deare Loue, makest thou no reckoning nor account of thy promise that thou madest to mee at thy departure? knowest thou not that euery noble mind is bound to keep his word, vpon paine of reproch and shame? but thou hast infringed it, and hast broken thy oath of Knighthood: which no excuse can recoouer. For since I last saw thy ship floting on the Seas, I neuer came within my Pallace, till the Writing hereof, nor neuer lay in my Bed to take my rest, nor neuer sat in iudgement on my Countreyes causes; but for the space of forty dayes I stood vpon a Rocke, expecting thy returne, till famine constrained me to depart. There haue I stood day and night, in raine and in snow, in the cold of the morning, and in the heat of the Sunne; in fasting, in prayers, in desires, in hope; and finally, languishing in despaire and death: Where, when I could heare no newes of thy returne, I desperately cast my selfe into the Sea, desiring the gods that they would bring me either alive, or dead to thy presence, to expresse the true affection that I haue ever borne thy noble person: Thus fare thou well. From her that liued and dyed with an vnspotted minde

*This could true Loue, till we meet in the
Elysian fields: thy unhappy Cælia,
Queene of the Fairie Land.*

Thus

Tom a Lincolne

Thus when faire Anglitora had read those bloody lines, she greatly lamented her unhappy death: and withall, requested the Red-rose Knight, in that she eyes for his sake, to beare her body into England, and there most honourably intombe it: to which he most willingly consented. So causing her body to be embalmed, they hoisted saile, and departed towards England; into which Country, they within four months safely arrived. At whose coming the Inhabitants and dwellers greatly rejoyced, but chiefly the Red-rose Knight and his company, who at their first arrivall, knelt downe upon the earth, and gave God thanks for preserving them from so many dangers and perils, to their high renowns, and triumphant victories.

After this, they intombed the body of Celis most honourably as befitte a Princess of her calling. This being done, they departed toward Pendragon Castle, standing in Wales, where as then King Arthur kept his royall Court: where being arrived, they found the King, and many other Nobles in a readines to give them a Princely welcome: amongst whom was fayre Angellica the Aunt of Lincolne, mother to the Red-rose Knight; yet kept in so secret a manner, that neither he, nor she, had any suspicion thereof, but spake one to another as mere strangers: The discovery of whom is disclosed at large in the second part of this History: as likewise the strange fortune of Celias little Sonne, which the Ladies in the Fayrie Land called by the name of the Fayrie Knight; and by what meanes he came to be called the Worlds Triumph: with many other strange accidents, &c. But now (to conclude this first part) the Red-rose Knight and the faire Anglitora were solemnely married together, and lived long time in King Arthurs Court in great joy, tranquillitie, and peace.

FINIS.

R. I

The Second Part
of the Famous Historie
OF
TOM A LINCOLNE,
THE RED-ROSE KNIGHT.

Wherein is declared his vnfortunate
Death, his Ladies Disloyaltie, his Childrens Honours, and lastly his Death
most strangely revenged.

Written by the first Author.



LONDON
Printed by A. M.
1635.



To the Reader.

Romise is debt (gentle Reader) I haue therefore performed what in my first Part I promised; which was to shew thee the vnfortunate death of the *Red-rose Knight*, his beloued Lady *Anglicora's* disloyall affection towards him, his Childrens Honours, Renownes, and Dignities: and in the period of this Historie his death both iustly, truly, and strangely reuenged: The Reading of which (if with good consideration) I doubt not but shall bring vnto thee much pleasure and delight, being (for the quantity thereof nothing inferiour to the best that hath beene written of the like Subiect (I meane) of Knights adventures, and Ladies beloued. I therefore dedicate this to thy reason, knowing that this old Prouerbe may confirme my expectation, which is, That good Wine needs no Bush: nor a pleasing History craves no shelter. Farewell.

R. F.



The Second Part of the famous History
of *Tom a Lincolne*, the
Red-rose Knight, &c.

CHAP. I.

How *Tom a Lincolne* knew not his Mother till forty yeares of his age, nor whose Son he was: Of King *Arthurs* death, and his dying speeches, and what hapned thereupon.

When Arthur, that renowned King of England (being one of the *Pine Worthies* of the *World*;) had by *twelue* severall set Battalies, conquered the third part of the Earth, and being wearied with the exploits of *Partiall* Adventures, in his old daies betooke himselfe to a quiet course of life, turning his *Warlike* habiliments, to diuine Bookes of celestiall meditations; that as the one had made him famous in this *World*, so might the other make him blessed in the *World* to come. Seven yeares continued quiet thoughts in his breast: seven yeares neuer heard hee the sound of delightfull Drummes: nor in seven yeares beheld he his thrice worthy Knights of the Round Table, flourishing in his Court: by which meanes his *Palace* grew disurnished of those *Partiall* troopes that drew commendations from all *sovraine* Kingdomes. In this time most of those renoune Champions had yielded their liues to the conquering Tyranny of pale death, and in the bowels of the earth lay sleeping their eternall sleepes, the royall

Tom a Lincolne

King himselfe laden with the honour of many yeares; and having now (according to nature) the burthen of death lying heauiely upon his shoulders: and the stroke lifted vp to dimbe his body from his soule, hee called befoze him all the chiefest of his Court: but especially his owne Quene, the Red-rose Knight, and his Lady Anglitore, with the faire Angellica, the Sunne of Lincolne, whom hee had so many yeares secretly loved: and being at the point to bid a wofull farewell to the world, with countenance as pale as the face of King Priam of Troy, he spake as followeth.

First, to thee my loved Quene, must I offer the secrets of my very soule, and what wanton escapes I haue made from my nuptiall Bed, otherwise cannot this my labouring life, depart from my fading body in quiet: Long haue I liued in the delightfull game of Amity, and polluted our Marriage Bed with that vile pleasure: pardon I beseech thee, and with that forgiveness (which I hope will proceed from the gentle heart) wash away this long byed euill, the Celestiall powers haue granted me remission. When turning to Angellica the Sunne of Lincolne, he said.

O thou my youths delight: thou whose love hath become my Quene of such Marriage pleasure: thou, and but only thou, haue I offended withall: therefore bid me Angellica, forgive me: I like a ranisher spotted thy virginity, I cropt thy sweet body of Chastity: I with flattery won thy heart, and led thee from thy Fathers house (that good Earle of London) to seeke my wanton desires: by thee had I a Sonne, of whom both thou and I, take glory of; for in his worthinesse remains the true Image of a Partialist; and this renowned Knight of the Red-rose is he: Yes liues: the fruit of our wanton pleasures, borne at Lincolne, and there by a Whore brought up, few knowing (till now) his true Parents. Forwaile not deare Sonne: thinke not amisse sweet Quene: nor thou my lovely Angellica: Be not dismayed you honourable Estates, here attending my dying hours: for as I hope presently to enter into Elizium Paradise, and wear the Crowne of beaustifull Glory, I haue revealed the long secrets of my heart, and truly brought to light those things that the

dark-

the Red-rose Knight.

darknesse of oblivion hath covered. Now the Mother knowes her Son, the Son the Mother. Now may this ballant Knight boast of his Pedegree, & a quiet content satisfy all your doubts. Thus haue I spoke my mind, and thus quieted my soule bids the world farewell. Adieu faire Quene, adieu deare son, farewell lovely Angellica; Lords and Ladies adieu unto you all: you haue seen my life, so now behold my death: as things doe liue, so things must die. These were the last of King Arthurs words: And being dead, his death not halfe so amazed the standers by, as the strange speeches at his liues farewell.

The Quene in a raging jealousie fretted at her Marriage wrongs, protested in her heart, to be reuenged upon the Sun of Lincolne.

The Sun of Lincolne seeing her wantonnesse discovered, took more griefe thereat, then joy in the ending of her long lost Son; supposing now, that (the King being gone) she should be made a scandall to the world.

The Red-rose Knight, knowing himselfe to be begot in wantonnesse, and borne a Whore, took small joy in the knowledge of his Mother.

Anglitore (Tom a Lincolnes Wife) creeded all the rest in sorrow bitterly sobbing to her selfe, and in heart making great lamentation, in that she had forsaken Father, Mother, Friends, Acquaintance, and Country all for the love of a Whore, byed in the wombe of a shamelesse Trumpet: therefore she purposed to giue him the slip; and with her owne Sonne (a young gallant knight, named the Blacke Knight, in courage like his Father) to trauell towards the Kingdome of Prester Iohn, where she first breathed life, and her Father reigned.

In this melancholly humour spent they many dayes, troubling their braines with diuers imaginations. The Court, which befoze rung with Delights, and flourished in gallant sort, now thundred with Complaints; every one disliking his owne estate: Discontent as a proud Commander governed such them; and their Attendants were idle Fancies, and disquiet Thoughts: and to speake troth, such a confused Court was seldom seene in the Land; for no sooner was King Arthurs Funerall solemnized, but the whole troopes

Tom a Lincolne

of Lords, Knights and Gentlemen, Ladies, and others, were like to a splitted Ship torn by the Tempest of the Sea) scattered, every one departed whither his Francis best pleased.

The Red-rose Knight conducted his Mother Angellica to a Cloyster in Lincolne, which place she had so often polluted with her Sinne, there to spend the remnant of her life in repentance; and with her true Lamentations, to wash away her blacke spots of Sinne, that so grievously staineth her soule: who from a pure Virgin, made her selfe a desolate Strumpet.

Likewise, King Arthurs widowed Queene, like to itrell Hecuba, or the teares Iuno, kept her Chamber for many dayes, pondering in her minde what revenge she might take upon Angellica her Husbands late favourite.

On the other side Anglitore Lady and Wife to the Red-rose Knight, with her Sonne the Blacke Knight, made provision for their departure towards the Land of Prester Iohn, where she was borne: so upon a night when neither Sonne nor Star-light appeared, they secretly departed the Court, secretly attended on by a Negar or Black-more; a Slave sitting to provide them necessaries, and to carry their Apparell and Jewels after them; whereof they had abundant store: The Blacke Knight her Sonne, (so called rather by fierce courage, then his blacke complexion) was all fired with the ardent desire that hee had to see his Graund-father Prester Iohn: therefore without taking leave of his Father (being then absent in the company of his lewd Graundmother) with noble spirit conducted his Mother to the Sea side, where a Ship was ready then to helpe Saile, where of the Pilots they were most willingly received for Passengers. And in this manner departed they the Land, the Blacke Knight tooke on his Shield met for a Scutcheon, a blacke Hairen feeding on dead mens flesh; his Caparisons were all of velvet embroidered, which most lively figured forth the Blacke saine lodged in his princely bosome. Anglitore his Mother, had the attire of an Amazon, made all of the best Arabian Silke, coloured like the changeable furs of the Kalmuckos: about her necke hung a Jewell of a wonderfull value, which was a Diamond cut in the fashion of a Heart split aunder with a Tur-

the Red-rose Knight

kish Semiter: betokening a doubt that she had of her Knights loyalty. The Quitty Moore that attended them, went all naked, except a Shagreen of Greene Tassata which covered his private parts: upon his foot a Spanish Shoe, which is nothing but a Shoe made of an Ases hide, buckled with small Leathers to his insteps, upon his head hee wore a Tizenth of Cyprus gilded with pure gold, and a Plate of Brass about his necke close locked, with the word Bond-Slave ingraven about it. In this manner passed they the Seas, and was by these strange habits wondered at in all Countries where they came: In which travels we will leave them for a time, and speake of other things pertinent to our Story.

CHAP. II.

Of Tom a Lincolnes strange manner of travelling, his wofull departure from England, and of his sorrowfull lamentations for the vinkindnesse of his Lady.



Then Tom a Lincolne (the Red-rose Knight) had spent some two months in the Company of his Mother at Lincolne, giving her as much comfort as a Sonne might, hee left her very penitent for her sinnes amisse, and returned to the Court, where hee left both his wife and her son, the Blacke Knight, thinking at his arrivall, to find so farewell a welcome, and so courteous an entertainment, that all the blacke clouds of Discontent might be blowne over by their happy meeting: but as ill chance had allotted, all things fell out contrary to all expectation; for he neither found Wife, Child, Servant, nor any one to make him answer: his Plate and Treasure was diminished, his household furniture, unbesselled, and by Thieves violently carried away, he had not so much as one Steed left in his Stable, for them the Queene had seized on for her use: and furthermore (by her commandment) a Decree was made, that

Tom a Lincolne

Whomsoever in all the Land should him any way, or give him but homely reverence, should lose their heads, for the had intitled him, The base borne seed of lust, a Strumpers brat, and the common shame of the dead King. This was the malice of King Arthurs widow: and surely Queens I know neuer thrifled more for the confusion of Hercules, then she did for Tom a Lincolnes overthrow: But yet this griefe (being cast from a Princesse favour, to a vulgar disgrace) was but a pleasure, to the joynde he took for the misse of his Lady and Sonne: No more could he heare from them, but that they were free from the fury of the angry Queens: which they had a vaine imagination layd upon the envious time: but farre otherwise did mischief set in her foot, the dotting minde of his Lady Anglicora intended to a further reach; which was to abandon his presence for ever, and to thinke him as ominous to her sight, as the killing Cockatrice. The effect of this his waines suddain distike, shee had caused (before her departure) to be carved in stone over the Chimney of his lodging, that she deserved damnation to leave Father, Friends, and Countrey, for the disloyall love of a Bastard.

Of all griefs to him this was the very spring, the roots, the depth, the height: which when he had read, he fell into a swoon, and had it not been for two Pages that attended him hee had never recovered: in this agony the veins of his breast spring out into blood, and all the parts of his body swate with griefe: downe fell hee then upon his knees, and immediately pulled the King from his finger which shee had given him when they were first betrothed, and wash't it with his teares, kissing it a hundred times: all that ever he had from her did he wash in the blood that trickles from his bowels, and after bound them in a Cypresse to his left side, directly where his heart lay, protesting by that God that created him, and was the guide of all his pasted fortunes, never to take them thence, till either he found his Lady, or ended his life. He likewise made a solemn vow to heaven, never to cut his Haire, never to come in Bed, never to wear a Sho, never to take food, but only Meele and Water, nor never to take pleasure in humantie, till he had cald his griefe in the

the Red-rose Knight.

presence of his dearest Anglicora, and that her love were reconciled to him.

Being thus strangely resolved, he discharged his Servants and Pages, giving them all the wealth that he had, and clad himselfe in tann'd Sheepskins, made close unto his body, whereby hee seemed rather a naked Wilde man bred in the Wilderness, then a sensible creature brought up by civill conversation. Thus bare-footed, and bare-legged, with an Irony Raffe in his hand, hee set forthward to seek his unhind Wife, and unnatural Sonne, giving this wofull farewell to his native Countrey.

O ye celestiall Powers (quoth hee) wherefore am I punished for my Parents offences? Why is their secret sinnes made my publics misery? What have I misdone, that my Wife-rejecteth me, and like a discourteous Lady forsakes me, making her absence my present calamity?

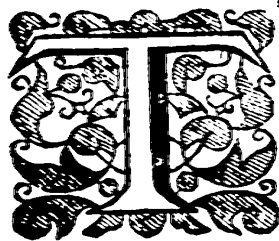
O thou gracious Queene of Love, I have beene as loyal a servant in thy pleasures, as ever was Hero to her Leander, or Pyramus to his Thisbe: When what madding fury, like a cruell commander, hath taken possession of my Anglicora's heart, and placed infernall conditions, whereas the pure vertues of modest behaviour had wont to be harboured? It cannot bee otherwise, but the enraged Queene with her unquenchable Cruelty hath burnen her henc; and not onely of one heart made two, but of two felkes to make none; which is, by untimely death, to worke both our confusions: therefore proud Queene, farewell: let all the furies haunt thee, and may thy Court seeme as hateful to thy sight, as the tormentors of Hell are to a guilty Conscience. Ingratefull England likewise adieu to thee, for all the honours I have brought into thy bounds, and with the spoiles of forraigne Countreys made thee the onely Prince of Kingdomes: yet thou repagest mee with disgrace; and load'st me with more contempt, then my never conquered Heart can indure: so kissing the ground with his warme lips, that had so long forsaken him, and with many a bitter teare and deepe sob, like a Pilgrimage (as I sayd before) he took leave of his native Countrey, and so went to the sea side: where he heard of his

Tom a Lincolne

Willis and his Sonnes departure, after whom (as soone as the wind conveniently serued, he took ship-board: where we will make likewise leaue him to his fortune upon the Sea, and speak of the puffed malice the Quene persecuted against Angellica the mother of the Red-rose Knight.

CHAP. VII.

Of the wofull death of *Angellica*, Mother to the *Red-rose Knight*, and of the death of the iealous *Queene* and others.



The beautilous *Angellica* being left by her Sonne, the *Red-rose Knight*, (at his departure) in a *Monasterie* at *Lincolne*, there to bewaile her former offences; and for her youths pleasure, in age to taste the bitter food of sorrow: the day-time she spent in grieued passions, the night she wasted with sighs and heart-breaking sobs: she led on careful thoughts, her drinke was streames of salt teares: her companions, thoughts of her passed wanton pleasures: her bed no better then the cold earth: her sleeps were few, but her comforts lesse: her continuall exercise was with a needle to worke in silke, upon the hangings of her Chamber, how she was first wooed, then wooing to King *Archurs* pleasures, in what manner their meetings were, their wanton dalliances, his embraces, her smiles: his princely gifts, her courteous acceptance: and lastly, the birth of her thirde worthy Sonne, his bringing up, his honours in the Court, and his strange discovery: all which she had wrought, as an Arras worke, with silke of diuerse colours, in a piece of the purest *Holland* cloath. In doing this, twice had the golden Sonne runne his circumference about the world, twice had the pleasant Spring beautified the Earth with her changeable mantles, twice had nipping Winter made the fields barren, and the trees leaflesse, and twice had the yeare shewed himselfe to all mankinde: in which time of

the Red-rose Knight.

twice twelue months, every day made she a sorrowfull complaint for the brackes of Honour, and her Virginitie losse, which so willingly she surrendred: and in this, so greatly had sorrow and griefe changed her, that her eyes (which had wont like twinkling Diamonds to giue light to all affections) were now sunke into their Cels, and seemed like hollow Sepulchers new opened: her face, wherein Beautie her selfe dwelt, and her cheeks the true die of the Lillie and the Rose intermixt, now appeared old and withered, like to the countenance of *Hecuba* when her Husband King *Priamus*, and her princely Children wereaine at *Troyes* destruction: and her tresses of Golden like Hayze, which like to Indian Weyers hung over her shoulders, were now growne more white then *Whites* downe, the Rickets of frozen Ice, or the white mountaines snows: all these griefes of nature had not age changed, but the inward griefe of her careful heart.

Not now make the wofull chance that hapned, euen upon the day, which by computation she had in former times yielded up her Waydens prioe, and lest that Ietwell that Kingdomes cannot recover: upon that haplesse day, came there a Messenger from the Quene, to bid her make preparation for death: for on that day should be her liues end, and her fortunes period: which she most willingly accepted of, and took more for thereat, then to be invited to a princely Banquet.

He not dismayd (said the Messenger) for you shall haue as honourable a death as euer had Lady: seven severall Instruments of death shall be presented to you for a choise, and your sturue tongue shall giue sentence which of them you will die by: whereupon this Messenger set this sorrowfull Lady at a round Table, directly in the middle of a very large room, (whereunto he had led her, being all about with blacke: where being placed as to a Banquet, or some solemn Dinner of state, there entered seven Seruitours in disguised shapes like unto Purbeckers, with seven severall deadly seruises in Dishes of silver Plate: The first brought in fire burning in a Dish, if she would, to consume her body to ashes: The second brought in a twisted Coarb, to strangle her to death: The third, a Dish full of deadly popson, to burst her body withall: The

Tom a Lineclne

fourth, a sharpe edge'd Dagger or Knife, to cut her throat: The fifth, an Iron wjacke to teare her body into small pieces: The sixth, a Dish full of liue Snakes to sting her to death: And the seventh an imployed Garment, being woyme, that will consume both flesh and blood. These seven deathfull Seruitours having set downe their Dishes (the least whereof brings present death) she was commanded by the Challenger, which of them she should chuse to die withall, and to make speedy choice; for he was sworne to the Quene (on whom he attended) to see it that day accomplished. At these his words she fell presently upon her knees, and with a courage ready to yeeld to death's furie, then to the mercie of the liuing Quene, sayd as followeth.

O thou guider of this earthly Globe, thou that governest my weak nature ouer vnto a wanton life, and from a Virgin chaste, hast made me an infamous Trumpet: thou that sufferest onely a King in Palestine to ppenile against me, and with the power of greatnesse won me to lechery: for which I am now doomed to a present death, and forced by violence to this tempted world atue; Inspire me with that happy choice of death, as my soule may haue an easie passage from the body: First, to die by fire, to an earthly imagination seemes terrible, and far different from nature: Secondly, to die with struggling coze, more base, and more fitting for robbers, thieues, and malefactors: Thirdly, to die by deadly poison, were a death for beasts and woymes that feed vpon the bosome of the earth: Fourthly, to die by cutting knives and slicing razors, were a death for cattle, fowles, and fishes that die for the vse of man: Fifthly by an Iron wjacke to end my life, were a barbarous death and against mans nature: But sixthly to dye a lingering death, which is a life consuming by wearing of imployed garments, (where repentance may still be in company) will I chuse: Therefore sweet Challenger of my death, bee thy office, attyre me in these robes: and the manner of my death I desire thee make knowne vnto the Quene: tell her (I pray thee) I forgive her; and may my death be a quiet vnto her soule, for my life is to her eares as the fall sound of night thunders, to the sleeping times.

Maie

the Red rose Knight.

Maie woold, now must I leaue thy flattering inticements, and instead of thy pompe and glorie, must shortly tread the dolefull march of pale death: and this body that hath bene so pleasing to a Princes eye, must be surrendred vp for woymes to feed vpon. Many other woordes would she haue spoken, but that the commanding Challenger (being tyed to an houre) caused her to put on the imployed Robes, which no sooner came to the warmth of her body, but the good Lady aske a few bitter sighes, and deadly gaspes yielded vp the Ghost; being (through the extremity of the infectious Warment) made like to an Anatomie, which they wadded in shere-cloth, and the next day gaue her buriall according to her estate, and so returned to the enraged Quene, keeping then her Court at Pendragon Castle in Wales, into whose presence the Challenger was no sooner come, but the angry Quene beyond all measure being desirous to heare of Lady Angelica's death, in a rage ran and clasped him about the middle, saying.

Speake Challenger speake, is the vile Trumpet dead? Is the shame of woman-kind restored? Is my hearts grieffe by her death banished my bosome: speake for I am overmastered with doubts.

Most gracious Quene (quoth the Challenger) resolve yourself of her death; for the cold earth hath inclosed vp her body: but so patiently took she her death, that well might it haue moued a Tigers heart to remorse; so in truth my heart relented at the manner of her death; Neuer went Lamb more gently to the slaughter, nor neuer Curlew more meekly, then this wofull Lady was at the message of her death: for the Elements did seeme to mourne closing their bright beauties by in blacke and sable Curtaines; and the very flintie walls (as it were) smote at the Agonie of her death, so gentle, meeke and humbly took she her death, commending her selfe vnto your Maiestie, wishing that her death might bee your soules contentment.

And could she be so patient (quoth the Quene) that even in death would sub happinesse to the causes thereof: farewell than miracle of woman-kind, I haue beue to thee a sa-

Tom a Lincoln

And I, I am told: I was blinded at the report of the wanton-
ness, else hadst thou bene now alive: all my cruelties against
thee, I now deeply repent, and for thy deare hearts blood by
me so rashly spilt, shall bee satisfied with the lynes of many
soulders. Whereupon, shee in a furie commanded the Messengers
head to be stricken off and the seven Murtherers to bee hanged all
at the Court Gate, and afterward caused their limbs to be set
upon high Poles by the common high wayes side, as an exam-
ple of her indignation.

Never after this houre (such is the remorse of a guiltie con-
science) could shee sleepe in quiet, but strange visions of this
Lady (as shee thought) seemed to appeare to her: the least
noise that shee heard whispering in the silence of the night,
did shee imagine to bee some furie to dragge her to Hell, for
the death of this good Lady: the Windes (as shee imagined)
murmured with Revenge, the running Rivers hummed
with Revenge, the flying Fowles of the Ayre whistled out
Revenge: yea every thing that made noise (in her conceit)
gave remorse for Revenge: and till that her owne life had gi-
ven satisfaction by death for the ruine of so sweet a Ladies
life, no food could doe her good, no sleepe quiet her paine, no
pleasure content her minde, but Despaire with a terrible coun-
tenance, did evermore attend her, willing her sometime to
throw her selfe headlong from the top of a Tower, sometime
by poison to end her dayes, sometime by drowning, sometime
by hanging, sometime by one thing, sometime by another: but
at last in the middle of the night, having her heart deeply
overmastered by despaire, shee tooke a Circle of pure Arabian
Silke, which Circle shee first woove on her Princely Spall
day when King Arthur married her: this safall Circle shee
made a sliding knot of, and therewithall upon her Bed post shee
hanged her selfe. Thus blood (you see) being guiltlesse shed,
is quitted againe with blood.

The Quene being dead, was not so much pitied of the
people, as the good Lady Angellica, little lamentation was
made for her death: for every one expected the like untimely
ende: but according to the allegiance of Subjects her
noblemen gave her a Princely Funerall, and set out her an
Iron

the Red-rose Knight.

Iron tombe, in signification that shee had an Iron heart, and
flinty conditions.

Here will we leane the dead to their quiet rests, and returns
to the Black Knight and his Mother Anglitora, with the Indian
Guns that attends them: for strange be the accidents that hap-
pen to them in soveraigne Countreys: and after we will speak
what hapnes to the Red-rose Knight upon the sea.

CHAP. IV.

By what meanes Anglitora became a Curtizan, and
how her Sonne the Blacke Knight lost himselfe
in a Wildernesse.



The Blacke Knight, his Mother Anglitora,
and the Blackamoore Gunc, having happily
crossed the Seas, and arrived in a Countrey ve-
ry fertill to see to, replenished with all kinds
of Trees and fruit, yet there were no Inha-
bitants to find, but onely an old Castle built of
flint Stones, the Turrets whereof were made like the Gre-
cian Pyramides, square and very high: At this Castle gate
they knocked so boldly (each one careless of all accidents
that might happen) as it rung into the Chamber where the
Knight of the Castle lay: who immediately sent a very low
Giant's Dwarf to see who knocked, and if they were Fran-
gers to direct them by into his Chamber, to take such kind cour-
tesies as the Castle afforded: for indeed he was a Knight of a
bonnifail condition, and full of liberality. The Dwarfs no
sooner coming to the Gate, and espying people in such strange
disguised attires, never having seen the like before, without
speaking one word, ranne amazedly by to his Master, certifying
him that a kinde of people of an unknowne nation was arri-
ved, and that they seemed rather Angells (in shape) then any
earthly creatures.

The Knight of the Castle hearing this, came downe and
met them in a large square Court paved with marble stone,
where

Tom a Lincolne

where hee kindly gave them entertainment, promising them both lodging and other needfull things they were destitute of.

The three Travellers accepted of his courtesies, and being long before weather-beaten on the Seas, thought themselves from a deepe Dungeon of calamities lifted to the top of all pleasures and prosperitie; thus from this pained Court the Knight led them by to his owne Chamber, wherein was a fire made of Juniper wood and Frankincense, which smelled very sweet: the walls were hung about with rich Tapestry, wherein was it the story of Troyes destruction, the Creation of mankind, and the fearfull description of the latter day of Drome: likewise hung upon the same walls Instruments of all sorts of musick, with such variety of other pleasures, as they had never seen the like.

Now while these weary Travellers take pleasure in beholding these things, the good Knight caused his Dwarf (which was all the servants that he kept) to cover the Table, made of Cypress wood, with a fine Damask table-cloth, and thereon set such delicacies as his castle afforded, which was a piece of a wild Boar, roasted the same morning, with divers other services of Fowles, whereof the Country had plenty: Their bread was made of the Almonds mixed with Goats milke (so no coyne grew in this soyle) their Drinke of the wild grape, likewise mingled with Goats milke, which is in my mind accounted recreative: to this Banquet were the Travellers placed, where having good stomacks, they quickly satisfied hunger, and after began to chat of their adventures what dangers they endured by sea, and how luckily they arrived in that country, giving the courteous Knight great thanks for his kindness.

On the other side, when the Banquet was ended, every one rising from the table, he took an Orphirion that hung by, and caused his Dwarf to dance after the sound thereof: the Strings whereof he himselfe strained with such curiositie, that it moved much delight, especially the Lady Anglitora, whose eyes and eares were as attentive to the Melody, as Hellenes were to the enchanting Musicks of the Grecian Paris. In this kind of pleasure consumed they most part of the day, till the

the Red-rose Knight.

The bright Sun began greatly to decline, then the Blacke Knight in a courageous spirit, said.

Our Knight (so to you seeme to be by your entertainment of strangers) this Carpet kind of pleasure I like not, it disagrees with my young desires: the hunting of untamed Beasts, the Tilts and Tournaments of Knights, and the Battels of renowned Warriors, is the glory I delight in: and now considering no other adventurous exercise, may be found in this Countrey, but onely the hunting of wild beasts, I will into the Forrest and by manhood fetch some wild Menison for my mothers supper.

The Knight of the Castle (seeing his resolution) furnished him with a hunting Hawkin, and so directed him to the Forrest, where most plenty of such pleasures were: God be his good speed, so he will leave the Blacke Knight in his exercise, and speake of the wanton affections of Anglitora, and the Knight of the Castle that they cast upon each other: a short tale to make, whereas two hearts make one thought, the bargain is soone made: the Knight of the Castle having not had the presence nor societie of a woman in seven yeares before, grew as wantonly minded as the Roman Tarquinus, when he ravished the chaste Lady Lucretia. On the other side, Anglitora having the venom of disloyaltie, grew so pliable to his desires, that at his pleasure he obtained that lone which in former times the Red-rose Knight adventured his life for; so that in former times was accounted the troyle admiration for constancie, was now the very wonder of shame, and the by-word of modest Maistresse: this was the first dailie entrance into their wanton pleasures, which in all ballance they spent till the Sun had lost the sight of the earth: then expecting the returne of the Blacke Knight from hunting, they sat as demurely as they had bene the chastest lasses of the world; not a glance of wantonnesse passed betwixt them, but all modest and civil behaviours; in this sort stayed they attending for the returne of the Blacke Knight. But all in vaine: so having a wild Panther in chase, he followed so far in the unknowne Forrest that he lost himselfe, all that night travelling to find the way forth, but could not; so he was

Tom a Lincoln

was to him as meate to a sicke man; his sleep was number-
lesse, like the starres of heauen, or the sands of the sea: he
demds for recovery little perceived, the further he went, the
farther he was from returning: thus day and night (for ma-
ny dayes and nights) spent hee in these comfortlesse troubles;
no hope cheered his heart, no comfort bore him company, but
his patient mind: and now at last, when he saw all meanes
frustrate, he resolved to live and die in that solitary Forrest:
his food he made of the fruits of trees, his drinke of the
cleare running water, his bed was no better than a heape of
Sun-burnt Wolfe, his Canopies the azure Elements full
of twinkling lights, his Curtaines a row of twich branched
Trees, the Wyches to light him to his bed, the Starres of
Heaven, the Echoes of his voice to bring him asleepe, the
croakes of Ravens, or the fawrell cries of night Owls: the
Clocke to tell the hures of the night, were hissing Snakes,
and Toads crawling in foggy gulle: his morning Cocke the
cheerfull Pigeons, or the chirping Larks: his compa-
nions on the day, were howling Wolves, ravenous Lions,
and the wpathfull Beastes: all (as the fates had decreed) as
gentle to him in fellowship, as people of a ruill government:
so to say truth, time and necessity had converted him to a man
of wild conditions: so his haire was growne long and baggy,
like unto a Satyre; his flesh tanned in the Sunne as an Indian;
the nailles of his fingers were as the talents of Eagles; where-
with hee could easily clumbe the highest Trees: garments hee
had not any, so they were worne out, and as willingly was
he content with nakednesse, as in former times hee was with
rich habiliments.

Thus lived hee for seven yeares in this desolate Forrest,
by which time hee was almost growne out of the favour of a
man: where so; a time we will leave him, and proceed to o-
ther accidents: also we will over-passe the lewd lues of Ang-
litora and the Knight of the Castle, nor speake as yet any more
of their seven yeares adultery: for numberlesse were the sinnes
committed by them in those seven yeares, in that accursed
Castle.

CHAP.

the Red-rose Knight.

CHAP. V.

How the Red-rose Knight found his Lady, and how he was most
strangely murdered, and buried in a dung-hill.



The Blackamore Dame (as you have heard) attended upon them like an obedient servant, and she was all day and lone, till Anglitora gave her body to the spoils of lust, and from a vertuous Lady converted her selfe to a ba-
ted strumpet; which vile course of life when the Indian perceived, hee secretly departed the Castle, greatly lamenting the wrongs of his spacker, the Red-rose Knight, whose noble minde deserved better at her hands. Day and night travailed the poore Dame toward England, thinking to find his spacker there, and to reveale that which hee thought hardly would be belieued by him: weary and oppress with hun-
ger went hee this long Journey: many provinces hee passed thro, before hee could learne the way towards England: and then was hee so farre from it as at the first, when hee departed from the Castle.

The labouring Husbandman grieved not more to see his Cozne and Costell taken by Thieves, nor the Merchant to heare of his Shippes sunke at Sea, then did this Indian at his bawle troubles, and wearisome Journeyes to small pur-
pose: so at last setting forward againe, he came to the Sea Shore, thinking to heare of some Ship to give him passage over: but alas, one stroke falls after another, one mischief comes upon the necke of another: and one mischance followes hap-
pys alone; so as this true-hearted Neger stood beholding both the blowes of the Sea beat against her bankes, and the wretched shippe lay wallowing in the waves, behold such a tempest suddenly arose, that by the force thereof the poore Dame was cast into the sea; but by reason of his witten baile rped about his middle, and his great skill in swimming (as most Negars be perfect therein) kept himselfe from

Tom a Lincolne

Bystrating: and as good fortune would, the same tempest drove the weather-beaten ship to the same shoar wherein the Red-rose Knight (his spallie) was, which ship had bene seven yeares upon the sea in great extremitie, and hee sawe this type some never see land. By that time the Tempest ended, the ship floated to land, wherein was left but onely the Red-rose Knight in his Palmers wood (for all the rest were starved by for want of food) who being weake and feeble, climbed by to the top of the Hatches, where when hee had perceived the Negar labouring for life upon the waters, cast out a long board, and so saved him: whom when the Red-rose Knight saw, and perfectly knew, hee fell almost into a trance for joy, supposing his Lady and Sonne not to be farre distant: but recovering his former senses, he spake as followeth.

O blessed Neptune, hast thou vouchsafed to deliver me from the depth of thy bowels and cast me on land, where once againe I may behold my faire Anglitara, and my deare Sonne, the Blacke Knight. These seven yeares famine endured on the sea, hath bene a sweet pleasure to me, in that the end brings me to my desires. Full therscope of my miserable Companions in this ship, hath death reaped upon, and through famine have eaten one another, making their hunger bowels graves for the other Caribals; and though now this belly of mine (like the Canibals) have bene glatted with humane flesh, and this mouth of mine tasted the blood of man: yet am I as pitifull as the tender hearted Mother, forgetting her Sons offences: and to my Anglitara will be as kind, as if never she had trespassed: nor like the Grecian Helena, left her married Lord: so taking the Blackamore by the hand. We demanded of her welfare, and in what estate his Son remained: The true hearted Negar could hardly speake for griefe, or utter one woord for teares: yet at the last with a wofull sigh hee uttered forth these heart-killing speeches.

O my noble spallie (quoth hee) by you from a Pagan I was made a Christian: by you, from a Heathen nation without civillitie, I was brought to a Land of plenty and government

the Red-rose Knight.

ornament; and by you, till my departure, was I maintained in good manner: therefore if I should prove a perjured slave, and a false Marlet towards you, my body were woorthy to be made foode for hungry fowles of the Ayre, and for the ravening Beasts of the fields: therefore now considering that dutie bindes mee to it, I will reveale such wofull chaunces, and such disloyall trickes shewed by your Lady as will make your heart tremble, your sinewes shake, and your haire to stand up-right. Anglitara your Lady and Wife, hath dishonoured your Bed and polluted that sacred Chamber of secrecie, which none ought to know, but onely you two: That marriage bedd shee made in Gods holy Temple, hath shee infringed, and untied the knot of Nuptiall promise: in a Countrey farre from hence hath shee wrought this hated crime, in a Countrey unpurged lines shee in a Castle, which is kept by a Knight of a wanton demeanour; there live they two in adultery, there live they secretly sleeping in wantonnesse: and therefore these seven yeares hath shee made her selfe the childe of shame: All this with extreme griefe doe I unfold, and with a heart almost kild with sorrow doe I breath out the dutie of a servant: if I have offended, let my death make amends: for what I speake is truly delivered from a heart unstained.

All this time of this his sorrowfull Discourse, stood the Red-rose Knight in a bitter agonie, like one nettled by a thorn from the cloudes, not knowing how to take these discourses: one while purposing to be revenged, and with his nailes to teare out the Strumpets eyes: another while, betraying her weak nature, that so easily was won to lechery: but at last, taking to him (the vertue) patience, hee resolved to travel to the Castle, and with his meeke persuasions sake to win her from her wickednesse, and so forget, forgive, and cast out of remembrance all these her unwomanlike remeanours, observing the Proverbe, That faire meane sooner winnes a woman, then force. Thus in company of his true servant the Negar, hee tooke his journey toward the Castle; where (after foure moneths travel) they arrived, the Red-rose Knight, by the directions of the Negar, knocked, and in his pilgrimes habite, desired meate and lodging for himselfe and his guide.

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The first that opened the Gate, was his owne Lady, who immediately, upon the sight of them blisshed, as though some sudden fears had affrighted her; yet dissemblingly (colouring her knowledge of them) they in a charitable manner gave them entertainment, and conducted them to a by room at the backe side of the Castle: into which place she sent them (by her Dwarfes) victuals from her owne Table, with a command, that the next morning they should abode, and neuer more trouble this place.

This message sent by the Dwarfes, much disquieted the Red-rose Knight, and wrought such amaze into his mind, that he grew ignorant what to doe: And seeing his appointed time very short to remaine there, he new thought fit to strike whilst the Iron was hot, and to discover what he was: so taking the Scarfe of Jewels and Rings tyed to his left side against his heart (which he knew perfectly well to be the gifts of her Loue) and by the Dwarfes sent them her: The which no sooner she beheld, but she openly said to the Knight of the Castle, that their secret affections were discovered, and her husband in the habit of a Palmer made abode in her house, conducted thither by the Moore, to bring thence home to light, and to carry her thence to England, there to be punished for her Infancies. Whereupon the Knight and she purposed the same night to rid themselves of that feare, and by some violent death send the Palmer to his last abiding. Disquietnesse attended on all sides for that day, and every houre seemed ten, till night approached; which at last came, though long lookt for. When Anglitore in company of the Knight of the Castle, like vnto Purthorers rose from their beds, even at that houre of night when mischiefs are acted, when no noyse was heard but the barking of Whines, the howling of Dogs, and the cracking of night-stoles, all assistance to blacke action: In this manner came they into the Lodging of the Palmer, who for wantonnesse of his Journeys, most soundly slept, little dreaming that such cruelly, could be lodged in the bosome of his wedded wife: one whose love he had first gained with great danger, and afterwards obtained as heere as his owne heart bleed. All signes of duty had

the Red-rose Knight

had she obscured, not any remembrance had shee of William, how: Partage Loue was forgotten, their passed loves were as things neuer haue: not any thought of remorse remained within her; but she more cruell then the male belinced Beare, or the Tyger starved for meat, by the helpe of the Knight of the Castle, took the Scarfe of Jewells (sent her from him the same evening) and by violence thrust them betwene the Palmers throat: by which meanes they bereaued him of life, and without any solemnities due to so hyane a man, they buried him in a Dunghill without the Gate, not shedding so much as one teare for his death: so great was the enuie of this his spitefull Lady. The poore Negar they set vp to the middle in the ground so surely fastened, that by any means he could not stir from thence, where wee will leaue him wishing for death. The Red-rose Knight, or rather the unhappy Palmer, in his turchristianlike Chauce, and the Knight of the Castle with the murtheresse Anglitore, to their surfetting Banquets of Sinne, and returns to the Blacke Knight, which had lost himselfe in the Woods.

CHAP. VI.

How the Blacke Knight being lost in a wilderness became a wild man, how his Fathers Ghost appeared vnto him, and in what manner he slew his owne Mother.



In this time the Blacke Knight grew so naturall a Wild-man, as though he had bene bred in the wildernesse: for day by day hee sported with Lions, Leopards, Tygers, Elephants, Unicornes, and such like kind of beastes, playing as familiarly with them, as in King Arthurs Court hee had done with gallant Gentlemen. But marke how it happened one day aboue another: hee charied to walke alone into a Valley, where hee late himselfe solake by the Rivers side, and in humane complaints bewailed his stone estate, how being borne and bred of a Painefull

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Princely Race, descended royally, should thus consume his
dayes in savage soyt, amongst wilde beastes, and by no meanes
could recover his libertie, or free himselfe from that solitary
wilderneffe. Being in this distresse of mind, a suddaine feare
assailed him, his heart shivered, his haire stood upright, the
Clyments seemed to looke dimme, a terrible Tempest toze
by huge frowns, the wilde Beastes roared and gathered on a
heape together, Birdes fell limbecke from the ayre, the
Ground as it were trembled, and a suddaine alteration troubled
each thing about him: in this amaze late he a good time, mar-
vellling what should ensue: at last there appeared (as he ima-
gined) the Ghost of his Father newly murdered, with a coun-
tenance pale and wan, with hollow eyes (as none at all) gli-
ding by and downe before him: casting such fearefull frownes,
as might make the stoutest heart in the world to tremble: and
at last, setting himselfe before the Blacke Knight, spake as
followeth.

Feare not my Sonne, I am the Ghost of thy murdered
Father, returned from Plutons hollow Region, I came from
that burning Kingdome where continually flames an ever-
lasting Furnace: from the fearefull Pitte come I to thee
for reuenge: Oh thou my Sonne: if euer gentle Nature
were plegant in thy bosome: if euer thou tasted pleasure to
heare thy Fathers honors spoken of, if euer thou desiredst to
haue thy life meritorious in this world, take to thee thy ne-
ver-failing Courage, and reuenge my death upon thy adulte-
rous Mother: thy Mother now lying in the stinkynesse of
Hamie, making the Castle where thee now remaines in, a
luttfull steepe: there was I murdered, and there buried
in a stinking Dughill: no man gaue mee Funerall teares,
nor any sorrowed for my death: I that haue bared Death in
the face, and purchast Honour in many Kingdomes, was
daine by my owne Wife, by my nearest friend, by my se-
cond selfe, by Angliron, by her whom the whole world ad-
mired for vertue. Rise (deare Sonne) rise, and haue thee to
that Castle polluted with the name of thy wicked Mother:
Rise I say, and let the persecutors of that Castle, be spynne-
led with their detested blood, the blood of that Spence that
hath

the Red rose Knight.

hath not onely disposed my marriage bedde of honourable
nities, but like a tyrant to her alone hath murdered mee.
Oh how the angry Heauens (as it were) has threatened my
reuenge: hearken how Hell-furies has helpe and ready for
reuenge: my Wines shoulteris at the hand of Heauen de-
serues reuenge: My blinding soule (Oh my Sonne)
wandereth in bannet paths, till thou wastest reuenge:
my death and murder cries (as did the blood of Abel) for
reuenge: thou feare not (Sonne) to act it, for duty, lawe
and nature binde thee to it. By Heauen, and by that great
immortal Theame of happynesse: By that low Kingdome
of eternall paines: By the huge watrey Seas I past to see
loke her: By Earth and by the Soules of all the goodly
men that euer yet, I command, charge, and constrain
thee to perseuere in this reuenge: Hence to that foule de-
famed Castle, defamed by Shulteris, defamed by Spence,
there to my Soule doe thy latest duty: there leane the
crossed Mothers brest, there sacrifice her lilles blood, there
appeale the Father: Whose intent with furie, so shall my
soule enter the helme of faire Elyzium: But if thou
wrest cowardlike, and through feare deny to create my
pleuious reuenge, from this day henceforth shall my pale
wan, leane, and withered Ghost with ghastly looks, and fear-
full eyes, pricke and follow thee. These were the wordes
of his Fathers Ghost: and having spoken these wordes, with
a greuous groane, he departed. At this his suddaine departure
the Blacke Knight cryed with a loud and fearefull voyce,
saying.

Oh noble Father, say; Oh say thy hasty heyes: once
more let me heare thee speake. Whither gress thou? Oh let
me heare thy voyce againe: It will not be, he is banished;
and my Mother liues as a shame to all our generation. Oh
thou shame of womanhood: Oh thou bloody Lecher:
Oh baptysh ad: Oh beaues desires: where shall I finde
a place to shed teares in: for my heart is rent into ten
thousand pieces, and the terror of this deed, is too intol-
erable. Rest thou in peace, sweete Father: thou in thy life
wert both true and valiant: thy vertue, wisdome, and man-
ner

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howe made the very enemies to love thee: Oh then, what fortune hadst thou, to die by the friendly trust of the same wife, my disloyall Mother, thy nearest friend prou'd thy greatest enemy; and by a Villaines malice, that heart was killed, that millions of foes could neuer hurt. Oh swate Red-rose Knight, most happy hadst thou bene to haue dyed in the fields of bloody Warre, and seal'd thy lines quittance amongst renowned Soldiers: then had thy deatly bene more honorable, my wicked Mother had not murdered thee, nor I bene inforced to take such bloody vengeance, as I intend (deare Father) for thy sake: for let me neuer breathe one day longer, nor view the next Mornings rising Sonne: let me neuer line imprisoned in this wilderness, let nothing prosper that euer I take in hand, and here let the worlde end, if I cease to prosecute a maynfull Revenge, as the soule of my Father hath commanded. Hereupon he set forward toward the Castle, conducted by what chaunce the Heauens had allotted him: not one steppe he knew right, nor what course to take to finde the direct way: but it hapned, that an ignis fatuus (as he thought) or a going spire, led him the right way out of the Forrest directly to the Castle where his dishonest Mother made her abode. But coming nere unto the Gates, he found all close, and nere unto the Castle the Blackamore set halfe way quicke into the earth, hauing (for want of fode) eaten most part of the flesh from his armes: whom the Blacke Knight some digged vp, and kept aliue, to be a furtherance to his intended reuenge.

The poore Indian, being thus happily preserved from death, revealed all that had hapned in the said Castle: how his Mother liued in adultery, how his Father was murdered, why himselfe was set quicke in the earth; and lastly, for the loue of his dead Father, he protested to conduct him through a secret Vault into the Castle, that in the dead of the night they might the easier accomplish their desired reuenge: Thus lingering secretly about the Castle till the middle of night: a (time as they imagined) to be the fittest for their tragicall businesse: at last the midnight houre came, and through a secret Cell they entred under the Castle into the

the Red-rose Knight.

the Lodging where his Father was murdered. This is the place (quoth the Negar) where my sad eyes beheld thy Father both aliue and dead: so going from thence into the Chamber (which by chaunce, and as ill lucke had appointed) was through negligence left open, hee opened the Doore where these Adulterers lay secretly sleeping: each others Armes, Oh dolefull sight, This last, both mother and father, lasse, and ere long this Weapon shall make his motherlesse: so kneeling downe vpon his knees, in a whispering manner hee said vnto himselfe. Yes lawding Destinies, now weane vp the Webbe of their two lines that haue lined too long. You infernall Furies, draw nere: Assist me thou reuengefull God Nemesis, for on this morrow sits now such a glorious Reuenge, as being taken, the worlde will applaud mee for a louing Sonne. Hauing spoken these wordes, hee sheathed his Sword vpon to the hiltes in the bosome of the Knight of the Castle, who lying in the armes of Anglitora, came so deadely a groone, that she immediately awaked: first looking to the Knight that was liue in her Armes, then perceiving her Sonne standing with his weapon drawn: yet twinking in the blood of the dead Knight, menacing likewise her death, with a wooll shrike hee breathed out these wordes,

Oh what hast thou done my cruell Sonne: Thou hastaine the miracle of humanitie; and one whom I haue chosen to be my hearts Paramour, and thy second Father.

Oh Lady quoth the (Blacke Knight) for Father is too proud a title for thee: what Furie driueth thee to lament the deserved death of that lewde blood shedder, and not rather chafe with heart-renting sighes, to bewaile the death of my Father, thy renowned Husband, whose guiltlesse body, euen dead, thou dost despise, by burying him inhumanly vpon a dunghill: but heauen hath graunted, and Earth hath agreed, detesting both thy misdeedes, and hath sent mee to sacrifice thy blood vnto the Soule of my murdered Father. Whilst hee was speaking these wordes Anglitora arose from her bed, and in her smock (which was of pure Cambricks) shee kneeled to her Sonne vpon her bare knees, saying.

Oh thou my deare Sonne, whom once I nourisht in

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my powerfull wombe, and see the tott'le mine stons blood,
whom oft I choicely doted in my armes, whom with
lullabies and sweet lullies I rocked the while: O farre be
it from the (my loving Sonne) to harme that breast, from
whom thou hast receivest life: O the (my Sonne) thy
father begging life. O spare the life, that once gave the
life, with bleeding teares, I doe confesse my wretched offen-
ces, I doe confesse through me thy father dyed: Then,
if confession of fault may merit merke, pardon my life. O
fear not the renowne with cruelty, making the selfe unknowne
and monstrous in weathering of the father. I charge
thee by the vertue that thou owest mee; by all the bandes of
love betwixt a father and a Sonne; by all the kinde
shewes to thee in thy infancy, let thy mother live that she
live upon her bare knees: Doe not thou glaze in my miserie:
let not my teares wet on thy cheek: let not thy minde bee
bent to death and murder: be no savage father: be no un-
naturall, rude and brutish: let my intreaties p'vaile to save
my life: wound not the wombe that fedde thee, which now
I tearmed bricked, by onely fasting thee, which thou hast
his eyes with gazing on his Parents wounds, and will not faint
in beholding them?

Whereupon the Blacke Knight not able to resist to leave
his father further intreaties, left pittie and remorse might
mollifie his heart, and so grant her life (which to Heaven to
take away, hee had acceptly flowing) hee sent her forth with these
wordes.

Lady, I am not made of flint nor Diamond; in little re-
gard of calamitie, I am almost stricke with remorse: but
dutie must quite undoe all other: I am with weeping against
kindes, all the powers of my body be in most full strife, and is so
to confound each other. Leave me to beate: Nature
turnes to wrath, and dutie to revenge: for mine thunders
my fathers blood with a screaming voyce, cries to Heaven
for vengeance: therefore to appease my fathers angry spirit,
here shalt thou feede by the dearest blood. Here was hee re-
ady to strike, and with his sword to finish up the tragedy:
but that his grieved soule in humane nature plucked backe his
hand:

the Red-rose Knight.

hath: whereupon with a great sigh he said.

O! Heavens how am I grieved in mind. Father for-
give me, I cannot kill my father. And now againe, he
thinks I see the pale shade of my fathers ghost gliding
before mine eyes: he thinks hee sees the murderer of
his murder: now thinks his angry looks threaten mee
and tells him that my heart is posset with cowardise, and chil-
dish fears: When tell p'vaile. O father such now receive
this sacrifice of blood and death; this pleasing sacrifice which
to appease thy troubled soule. I heare thee offer. And thus
in speaking these wordes, with his sword hee split the heave
heart of his mother: from whence the blood as from a gush-
ing spring issues. Which when he beheld, such a sudden
conceit of griefe entred his mind, considering that hee had
slaine his owne father, whom in duty hee ought to honour
above all living women, that he rather fell into a tricke than
a melancholly: and so with a pale countenance and gawdy
lookes, with eyes sparkling like to a burning furnace, began to
telle the tale.

Which thus he saies: Whom hath my bloody hand mur-
dered: Hee is not to my soule for I am more than the
wretched blood that came out their Damned wombe, to
give life unto themselves: they doe but according to nature, I
against all nature; for I have sinned by the blood that
killed gave me life. O! wicked wretch, where shall I now
hide my head for I have sinned my selfe in killing her: I
have stained this Chamber here with humane blood. The
Heavens are sore for this deed: O! the world can beweepe
me for this murder, and that sorrow will follow here with
fame and terror: O! Heavens be witness, O! Heaven (methinks)
be my comfort. O! Heavens be my comfort: I see
my father comes with a bright appearing, threatening com-
fort to my comfort. O! then hee hee hee, come to follow
me, to follow me, O! the breath of Heaven to fol-
low upon my head. O! Heavens, where art thou? O! Heavens
thee see: I will goe feede (as thou hast the world) and if in the
world I find thee not, I will feede the world, and feede
the mantles place of Iod. I will raise up the corners of

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the skie, I will throw downe the Sunne, the Moone, and the starres: then leaping heauen, I will goe like for Dis-
paire in the leathsome pool of Hell; there in Pluxoes Court
will I binde blacke Cerberus by his chaines, the triple-bea-
ded Helhounds, that Master of hell gates, because he let Dis-
paire passe from thence. In this franticke sort ran he by and
downe the Chamber, and at last with the nayles of his fingers
he fell to graue vpon the stone walls the picture of his
spether, imitating Pigmalion, hoping to haue life breathed
into the same. Meane while the poore Indian with fleshlesse
armes heaued vp towards Heauen, and on his bare knees,
made his supplication to the Gods, for the Blacke knights reco-
uery of his wits.

O yee angry Deuities (quoth hee) reuoke your heauy
dumes, forget this crime, forgive this unnaturall murder:
pity the state of this distressed Knight, and send some meanes
to recover his senses. When bright Lampe of Heauen, thou
sterne light, although in Justice we haue deserued thy wrath,
yet let my Prayers, my neuer ceasing Prayers, my heart
renting sighes, my deepe intreated Teares, tooke some
remedy from thy incensed ire, that either his Knight may re-
cover his lost senses, or let him free from death. Thus in a zea-
lous manner prayed the poore Negar, desiring God to lay the
Knights fault vpon his head, and reclaime his vnbribled
rage: which Prayer was soone regarded by Heauen, for the
Blacke Knight had immediatly his madnesse turned into a sad
melancholly; and in a more gentle manner made his sad lamen-
tations, as you shall heare in the next Chapter.

But now the Negar, that all the time of Anglitoras mur-
der stood in a trance, began now a little (considering the fright
he took at the Blacke Knights madnesse) to summon againe to-
gether his naturall senses, and perceiuing the vncaste Lady
dead, cold, pale, wan, lying weltring in her gaue and the blood
of her false heart (shed by her owne child) all bespynckled about
the Chamber, sayd as followeth.

Now (quoth the Negar, betwixt life and death) haue you
thoune your selfe a cruell Sonne, and nobly reuenged the
death of your Father. These were the last wordes of the poore

Indian

the Red-rose Knight.

Indian; which as then sunke downe, and neuer after breathed:
Thereupon came forth the Dwarf of the Castle, with great
store of treasure, proffering the same to the Blacke Knight;
who nothing thinking after consideratione, refused it, and with-
all took the Dwarf in satisfaction for the Negars death, and
crammed the treasure downe his throat; and after buried the
two seruants together in one Graue. This being done he dig-
ged vp his Fathers body from the Dunghill, and brought it to
the chamber where his mother lay, and after in an Abby yard
belonging to the Castle, he buried them both likewise in one
Graue. This being done, hee kneeled thereupon, and made his
complaint in this manner.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Blacke Knights melancholly lamentations ouer the graue
of his Parents; and of other things that hapned.



O thrice happy for euermore be this ground
that containes the bodies of my vnforgotten
Parents: for this Earth hath receiued the
first Daring of Nature, and the early de-
light of the whole world; the Sun-shine of
Christendome, and the glorie of Mankind:

O thrice happy be the grasse, that from henceforth shall
grow vpon this Graue: let neuer sothe touch it, nor crafty
lurking Serpent with venomous breath, or deadly person,
hurt it: Let no Lyons pawes, nor Beares foot, tread vpon
it: Let no beards hoare in any manner abuse it: Let
no Birds with pecking, no crawling filthy Vermin, no twin-
ters nipping Frost, no nightly falling Dewes, no rage of
the parching Sunnes heat, nor Starres haue power from
Heauen, nor fearfull Tempest nor horrible Lightning in
any manner annoy it: Let no Plough-man driue hither his
heavy Oxe, nor Shepherds bring hither their Sheepe,
lest by the Bulls rage it be harmed, or by the harinshe
shape it be eaten: but let it soe euer grow, that the display-
ing thereof may reach to Heauen: and may from henceforth
this

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This Space be ever accompanie sacred: and may the Grasse
be ever sparkles with sweet Waters. Some good man
upon this Grasse let a burning Waxer, that thou lozengery
ingress of my heart, I may heat my bristles, till my filthes
be so stricken the windes from my body; and that my soule
may have their company into Elizium. Come you maister
flithy Satyres: Come you friendly Fawnes: Come you
Fayries and Dryades, and sing sweet Epitaphes; lift up your
voices to Heaven, and let your praises be in the honour of
my Parents: my selfe like a waite, pale, and dead man, will
beare you company: I will wearie the world with my com-
plaints: I will make huge streames with my teares:
such streames, as no bankes shall barre: such streames,
as no drought shall dry. But alas what doe I meane to
repeat these feble lamentations: since my deere Parents
be dead: since from the world they are parted: since they are
buried without solennitie: since my delights are all inclo-
sed in the Grasse: yet will I still here make my com-
plaints, though no good sale comes thereby, adding teares
to teares, and sorowes to sorowes. Oh howling For-
tune. Oh blinckie Starres. Oh curlew say that ever I
did this deed, for now no sense, no knowledge, takes their
unsensible bodies of my griefes: in this Grasse there is no
feeling: in Death there is no pittie taken. Oh thou Silen-
tius thou commander of these Mountains, helpe mee purge
helplesse Sile to these teares: for my religion, for my devo-
tion and Countreys sake helpe me: either let me have some
comfort in my sorrowes, or let me in Death beare my Pa-
rents company. What sorrow what torment I suffer: how
my heart troubles, how my eyes flow with teares, how my
head is with teares pained, how my soule is full of horri-
ble anguish all this thou heare, and yet it little grieves thee
to heare. Oh thou dainty ground, from henceforth cease
to be so dainty: cease to be deckt with flowers,
and to be mention in Songs, for the purest flowers are
withered: My Countreys are decayed: my deere Parents
are too intimately bereft of life: their sweet bodies thou
harboured, and in thy bowels belovest them as thou dost
thyselfe

the Red rose Knight.

Wretches. Therefore thou cruel Earth, bowels and inward,
for thou art unworthy of such blessed bodies. And now, oh
you pittifull Weenies, heare my complaints, convey them
to the Heavens of my deceased Parents: for my lamenta-
tions by the gentle Windes, are blownen from the East win-
des to the West: the day Land, and the Watry Seas, are witness-
es to them: Therefore no day shall rise, but it shall heare
my complaints: no night shall come, but it shall give earre
to my moanes: neither day nor night, shall be free from my
heart-breaking cries. If that I groane, mee thinkes the
Trees are bended, as though they pittied my teares. The
very Ground (for griefe) I see alters her complexion. All
that I heare, all that I see, all that I feele, gives forth
increase to my sorrow. I will never henceforth come in pro-
pled Towne, nor inhabited Cittie, but wander all alone by
and alone by lone Walles, and Sleepy Rocks: or I will
dwell in dark Denes frequented onely by wilde Beastes,
where no path of man was ever seene, or to the Woods I
will goe, so darke, and beset so thicke with shadowy branches,
that no Sunne may shine there by day, nor no Starre by
night may be seene, whereas is heard no voyce, but the en-
cries of horrible Goblins, the balefull Whistles of Night-
owles, the unluckie sounds of Ravens and Crows; there
shall mine eyes be made watry Fountaines; there will I
make such plaints, as Beastes shall mourne to heare them:
such plaints will I make, as shall rend and rive strong trees,
make wilde Panthers faine, and mellelike hard stony Stones:
And if by chance that sleepe oppresse mee, on the bare and cold
Ground shall these frostie limbs rest: the greene turffe shall
set me as a Pillow for my head: boughes and branches of trees
shall cover me: and then I hope, some venomous Serpent will
speedily give mee my death wound, that this my payre soule
may be released from flesh and blood: by which meanes I may
passe to those fields, those faire Elizium fields, whereas
my mothered Parents daily resort. In this manner com-
plained the Blacke Knight upon his Parents grave, three
dayes and nights together, till kneeling upon the cold ground
and could not by any imagination be comforted: every thing

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his eyes beheld, reached fresh sorrows and eyes on new lamentations: but at last, the Powers of Heaven intending to grant him some ease, cast his distressed senses into a quiet slumber: where lying upon his fathers grave, we will let him take a time rest.

CHAP. VIII.

How the Fayerie Knight came to be called the *Worlds Triumph*, Of his arrival in England, of the two Knights deaths, and of the Proverbs used of three Cities in England.



As have read in the first part of this *Worlds Triumph*, how the Fayerie Knight, the Sonne of Celia, begot by the Red-rose Knight, was committed (by his Mother at her death) to the keeping of the Ladies of the Land: for then was there but few men living, being a Countrey onely of women: and now being of lusty age: and a Knight of renowned valour, he betooke himselfe to travell: the onely cause to finde his Father, & some of his kinsmen whom he had never seen.

Many were the Countreies he passed: but more the dangers he endured: all which for this time, we omit: onely a little speake of three gifts given him by an Hermit, that had these exceeding Herms: For coming to an Island to seek adventures, it was his chance to save a young beautifull Mayden from ravishing by a Satyrall Wild-man: for he having tied the golden locks of her Haire to two knotty Brambles, and being ready to take his generall pleasure upon her, the Fayerie Knight coming by, and seeing that dishonour and violence offered to so young a Virgin, with his sword at one blow, paired away the Wild-mans head, and so went with the Mayden home to her Fathers house, which was an Hermitage some mile distant off: where being no sooner come, but the good old man, having a Head more white then silver, but a heart more heavier then Lead, by reason of the

the Red-rose Knight.

want of his daughter, so cruelly taken from him began at her sight to be so chafed, that he had not the power (for joy) to speake in a good space, but at last, taking the Fayerie Knight by the hand, he led him to an inward room, where he banqueted him with such cheer as his Hermitage afforded; and after in lieu of his daughters rescue, he gave him three such Gifts, and of these such Vertues, as the like seldom had a Knight. The first was a Ring, which whosoever did weare, should never dye by treason. The second a Sword; that on what Gate soever it struck, it would presently be open. The third and last, a viall of such Drinke that whosoever tasted thereof, should suddenly forget all passed sorrows.

Having received these three Gifts of the good old Hermit, he departed, and travelled without any adventure till he came and found the Blacke Knight asleep upon his fathers Grave: which when the Fayerie Knight had awaked, in countenance they were so alike, as Nature had made them both one, (for indeed they were Brothers by the Fathers side, the one true borne, the other a Bastard) yet at the first sight, such a secret affection grew betwixt them, that they plighted their faiths each to each other, vowing never to part friendships. But when the Blacke Knight had revealed his birth and parentage, his Fathers name, and place of birth, the Fayerie Knight resolved himselfe, that he had found a Brother, as well in nature as condition: But when he heard the story of his Fathers life, and the manner of his death, with the murder of Anglora his unchast wife, he could not chuse but shed tears, whereof plenty descended from his faire eyes: whereupon hee took occasion to speake as followeth.

Heaven rest thy sweet soule (my unknowne Father,) and may the fruite of this proud as famous in the World as thou hast been; but more fortunate in their marriage choice: As for my Stepmother, though her unchast life have made her infamous to all womankind, yet this in charitie I desire, that when she comes to Platoes Kingdom, that Proserpine may send her to the blessed fields of Elizium; in remembrance of whom, in this world, (if ever we live in that noble Countrey of England where my knightly Father was borne)

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boyme) lies still there erect her a stately Tombe: yet no Epitaph shall show her dishonourall life: nor the cause of her death: only in Letters of beaten Gold, shall remaine engraven upon her Tombe, the name of, Anglica Daughter to Prester John, and Wife to the worthy Red-rose Knight. Hereupon hee gave his new-found Brother (the Blacke Knight) his Wall of Wynde which the Hermitte had given him: who no longer had tasted, but all former graces were forgotten: he remembred not the death of his Father, nor the murder of his Mother, nor what sorrow hee had suffered in the Wilberforce: but like a forlorne Knight, went his way round about him, and stood on Thornes till hee was set forward to seek partiall adventures. Hereupon these two Knights departed toward England, and performed many noble deeds of Chivalrie by the way: But amongst all others, being in the Turkish Court (this is worthy to be noted) for with one Roze of the eare, the Blacke Knight killed the Turkes Sonne Rarks dead: for which cause, by treason were their lives conspired, and the following night, had their Lodging entred by twelve of the Turkes Guard, with intent to murder them: but by reason of the enchanted Ring, in the which they put both their little fingers, the Guard of a sudden fell all fast in a trance: whereupon the two Knights departed the Turkish Court. But no longer were they out of the Citie, but a troupe of armed Knights pursued them, and followed them so closely, that they were forced to enter a Castle that stood by the Sea side, wherein no creature had abiding: coming to the Gate, the Fayrie Knight with his sword strucke thereon, and it presently opened: where, in being no longer entred, but the armed Knights of the Turkish nation closed them too in, and caused the Gates to be walled up with three Stones, and so dyed. Now where these two Knights in such danger of death, then after they had bene in all their hurra: and had their lives saved, had not good fortune preserve their lives: for the Castle walled here so high, that none could venture downe without great danger. As in greatest steadfastness, many but in the quickest invention: so the two knights in all the danger from their

the Red-rose Knight.

their heads (which were very long) and therewithall made a long twisted Line of Cord, with the which they did frame to top of the wall to the ground. But this mischance happened; as the Fayrie Knight glided downe, the Coura broke, and his body took such a violent blow against the same Ground, that it stricke the breath quite out of his body, so life by the Blacke Knight could be perceived, but that his soule was for ever divided. This of all misfortunes, was held the extreamest; therefore in great griefe hee breathed forth this lamentation.

Oh you partiall Fates (quoth hee) Oh you blind Deities: Why have you rest two lines by wounding one: Now let the Sunne forbeare his wonted light, let Heate and Cold, let Drought and Popsture, let Earth and Ayre, let Fire and Water, be all mingled and confounded together: let that old confused Chaos returne againe, and here let the World end. And now you Heavens this is my request, that my soule may presently forsake this flesh: I have no soules of mine owne, for it is the soule of the Fayrie Knight, for but one soule is common to us both: then how can I live, having my soule departed, which spightfull death hath now separated: Oh then my knightly brother, though the Fates deny to give thee life, yet in spite of them I follow thee. You Heavens receive this halie soule of my true Friend and let not life and death part us; with Eagles wings will I fly after him, and in some celestiall Towne to be with him in friendship. All two in life were but one, one will, one heart, one mind, one soule made us one: one life kept us both alive, one being bound, bound us the other by death: therefore, as we lived in life, so will we be in heave; and on one Throne we may inter both our bodies: how glorious and happy were my death, to be with my beloved friend: Now doe I loath this life in having done to be with my deere Brother: whereupon drawing his sword from his side, he sayd.

Oh thou my dear Brother, now thou shalt be the meane, to ridde my soule from this prison of clay. Oh faith unfained, Oh bond of sacred friendship; I am resolved both with the force of Heart, hand, and sword, to give my heart breath

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deadly wound; so; now my noble Fayrie Knight, this blood
I offer up unto thy soule. But being ready with his sword
to pierce his stons heart, he saw a lively blood spread in his
friends face, and those eyes that were so dolefully closed up,
began now to looke abroad; and the countenance that was
so pale and wan, recovered a fresh complexion; whereupon the
Blacke Knight stayed from his desperate resolution, and from a
bloody tragedian, became the reconerer of his brothers life;
who after a while, began to be perfect sensible: so binding his
bruised bones together, they went a shipboard upon a ship
that lay at Ancho; at the next Port, making so; England, so the
next morning (the wind served well) the Pilots boyked sayle,
merrily floting on the waters.

Ten weekes had not passed toward the finishing of a yeare
before they arrived on the Chaunkie cliffs of England; upon
which they had no sooner set footing, but with their warme
lips they gently kissed the cold earth. This is the Land of
promised gloze (said the Fayrie Knight) to And this Land I
have endured many miseries: to And this Land I have passed
many Countries, and in this Land, must I scale up the last
quittance of my life, here shall my bones rest, so; I am lawfully
descended from the loynes of an English Knight: peace be in
my end, so; all my dayes have bene spent in much trouble.

In such like discourses left they the those doo, and traunailing
further into the Land, they met with one of King Arthurs
Knights, named Sir Launcelot du Lake, so old and lame that
though his bysses in chivalry, he seemed rather an impotent
creature, then a Knight at Armes; yet at the sight of these
two adventures Knights, his blood seemed to grow young:
and he that before could not march a mile on foot so; a King-
dome, now went as lively as any of the two other Knights
did. First came they to London, where so; their fathers sake
they were (by the Governours) most gallantly entertained:
the streets were hung round with Arras hangings, and Tape-
strie woorks: Pageants were builded up in every street, the
Conduits ran with Wine, and a soleme Holy-day was then
proclaimed to be kept yearly upon that day. To speake of
Banquets prepared so; them, the Silts and Turnaments,
and

*Last leaf missing and
first leaf, presumably
blank, are among the
suspect*

Bernard Quaritch

S. F. Johnson

17. VII. 1914

